US009055624B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Middleton-White et al.

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(45) **Date of Patent: *Jun. 9, 2015**

(54) **INTEGRATED LIGHTING SYSTEM AND METHOD**

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(73) Assignee: **Hubbell Incorporated**, Shelton, CT (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/886,675**

(22) Filed: **May 3, 2013**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2014/0049167 A1 Feb. 20, 2014

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 12/662,812, filed on May 4, 2010, now Pat. No. 8,436,542.

(60) Provisional application No. 61/175,343, filed on May 4, 2009.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
H05B 37/02 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC ***H05B 37/02*** (2013.01); ***H05B 37/0245*** (2013.01); ***H05B 37/029*** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC H05B 33/08; H05B 33/0869
USPC 315/152, 297, 312, 294, 307, 291, 316
See application file for complete search history.

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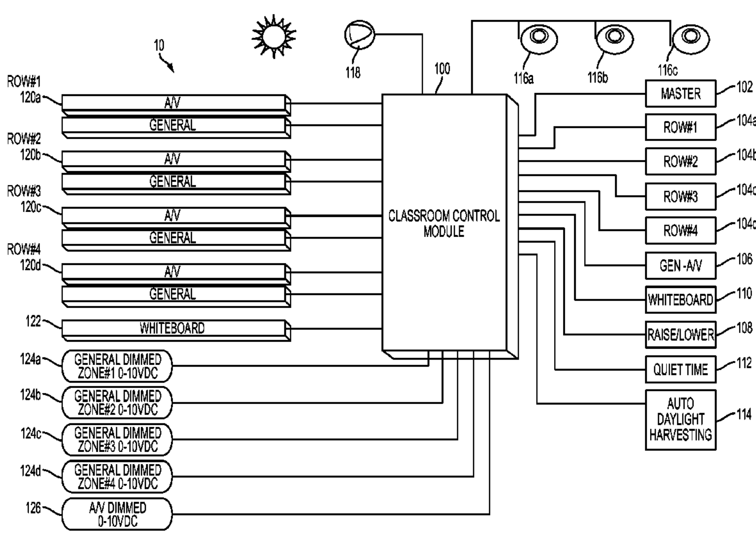
Primary Examiner — Jason M Crawford

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Roylance, Abrams, Berdo & Goodman L.L.P

(57) **ABSTRACT**

System and method include luminaires, control switches, occupancy detectors, and photocells connected to central control module for setting up, testing, commissioning and maintaining the system. Memory card interface and associated memory card provided for loading, saving and/or transferring configuration, update firmware, and log system operation data, which can be automatically recognized to perform appropriate actions. System and method provide switching between different mutually exclusive lighting modes where lighting of each mode is sequenced such that second lighting mode is initiated before first mode is terminated, resulting in continuity of lighting in controlled area. Other features include daylight harvesting control with multiple zone dimming and switching, programmable attack and decay dimming rates, ability to return system to previous dimming level after lights have been turned off, and ability to start controlled lights at full light level then dim down to previous level to ensure lighting ballasts have sufficient start up voltage.

26 Claims, 38 Drawing Sheets



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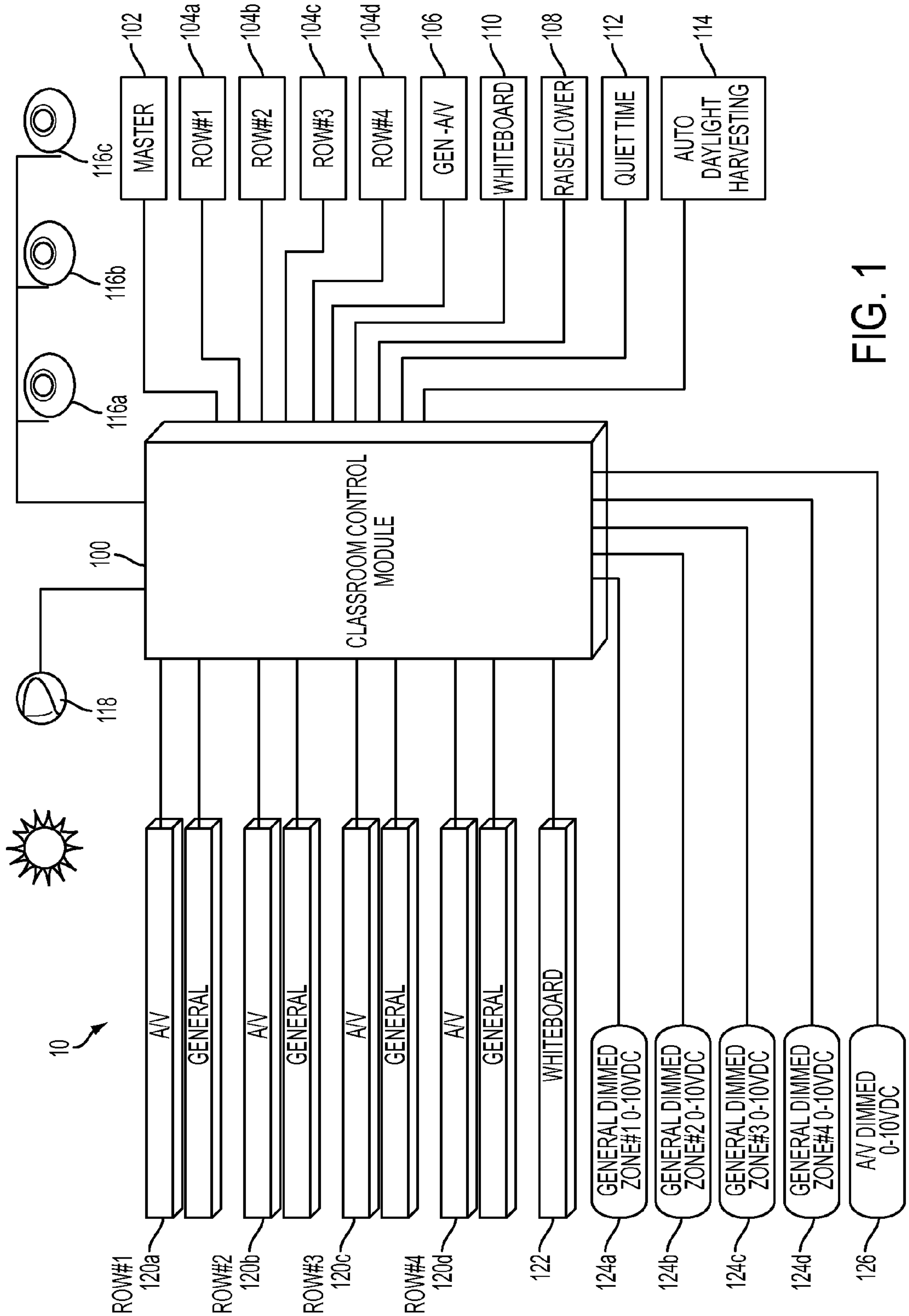

10
MASTER
ROW#1
ROW#2
ROW#3
ROW#4
GEN-A/V
WHITEBOARD
RAISE/LOWER
QUIET TIME
AUTO DAYLIGHT HARVESTING
102
104a
104b
104c
104d
106
110
108
112
114
116a
116b
116c
118
100
CLASSROOM CONTROL MODULE
A/V
GENERAL
A/V
GENERAL
A/V
GENERAL
A/V
GENERAL
WHITEBOARD
GENERAL DIMMED ZONE#1 0-10VDC
GENERAL DIMMED ZONE#2 0-10VDC
GENERAL DIMMED ZONE#3 0-10VDC
GENERAL DIMMED ZONE#4 0-10VDC
A/V DIMMED 0-10VDC
ROW#1 120a
ROW#2 120b
ROW#3 120c
ROW#4 120d
122
124a
124b
124c
124d
126

FIG. 1

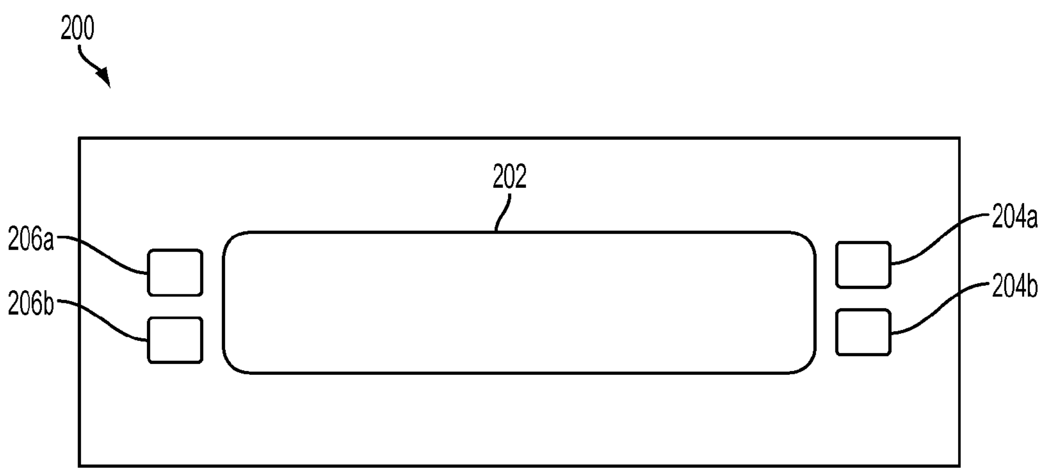


FIG. 2

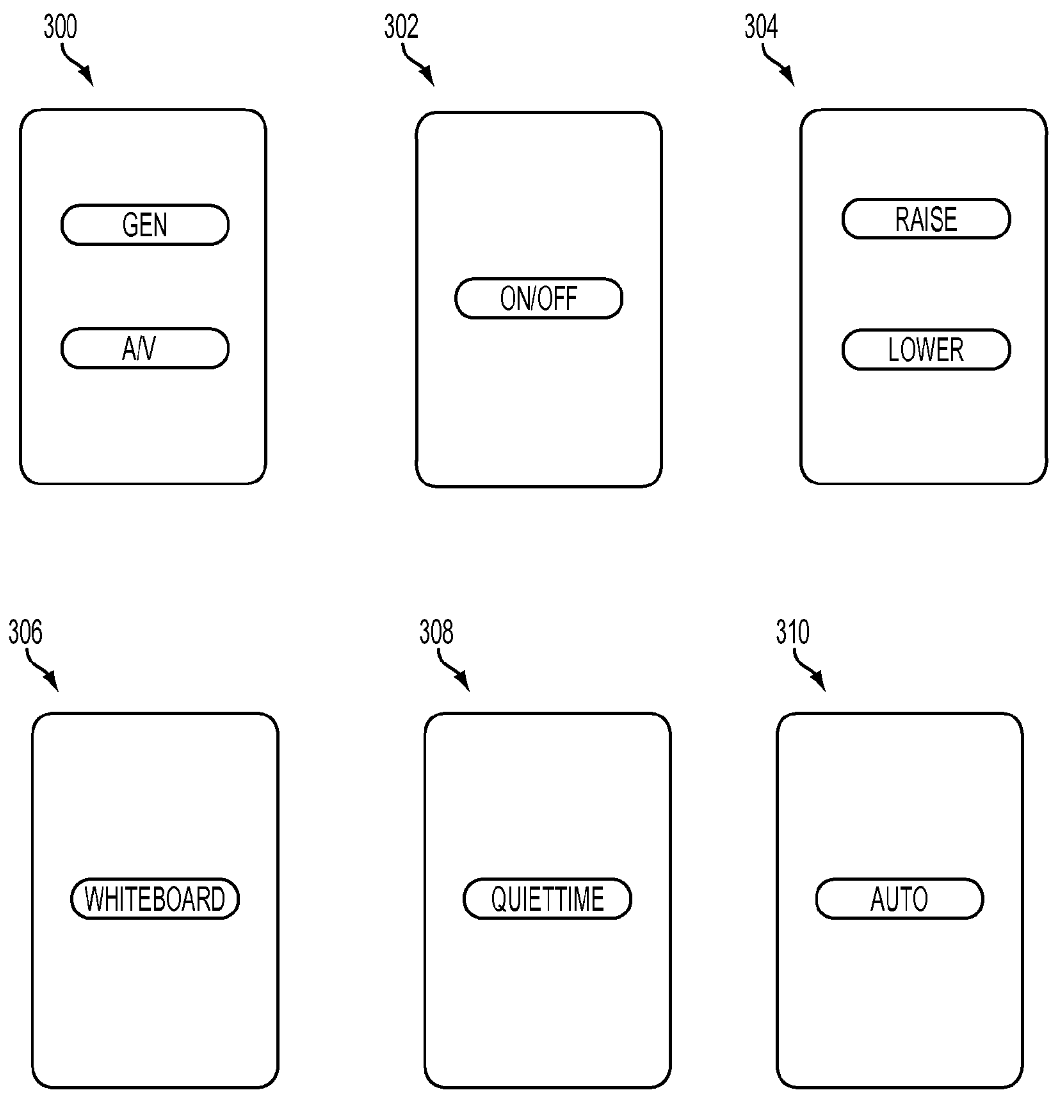

300
GEN
A/V
302
ON/OFF
304
RAISE
LOWER
306
WHITEBOARD
308
QUIETTIME
310
AUTO

FIG. 3

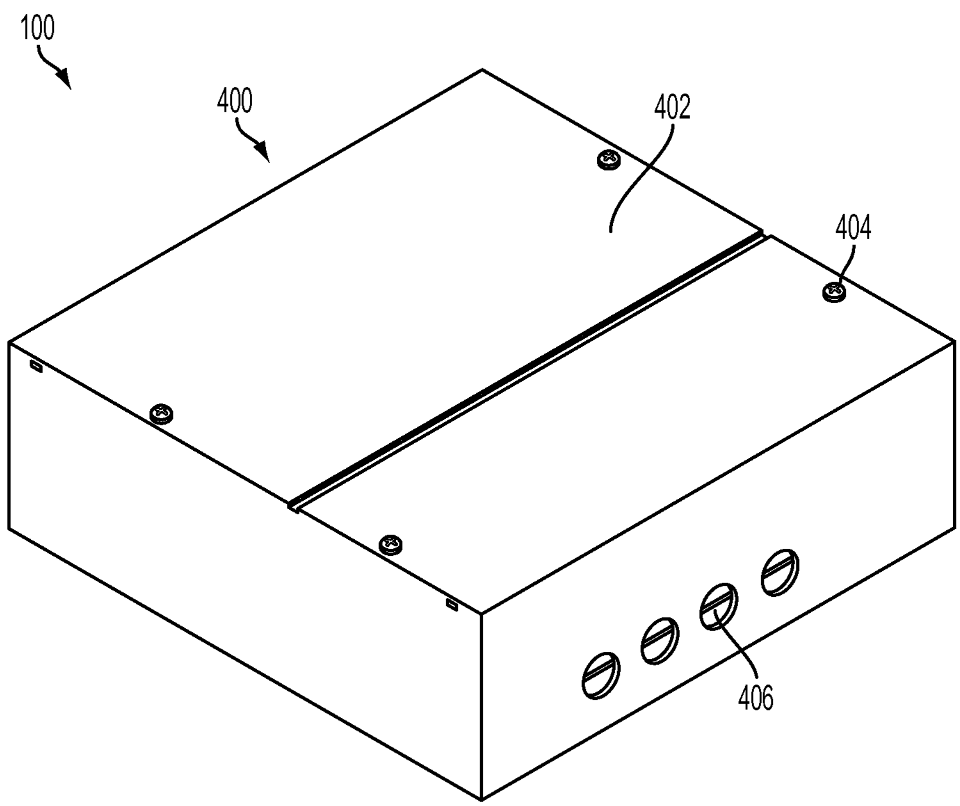


FIG. 4(a)

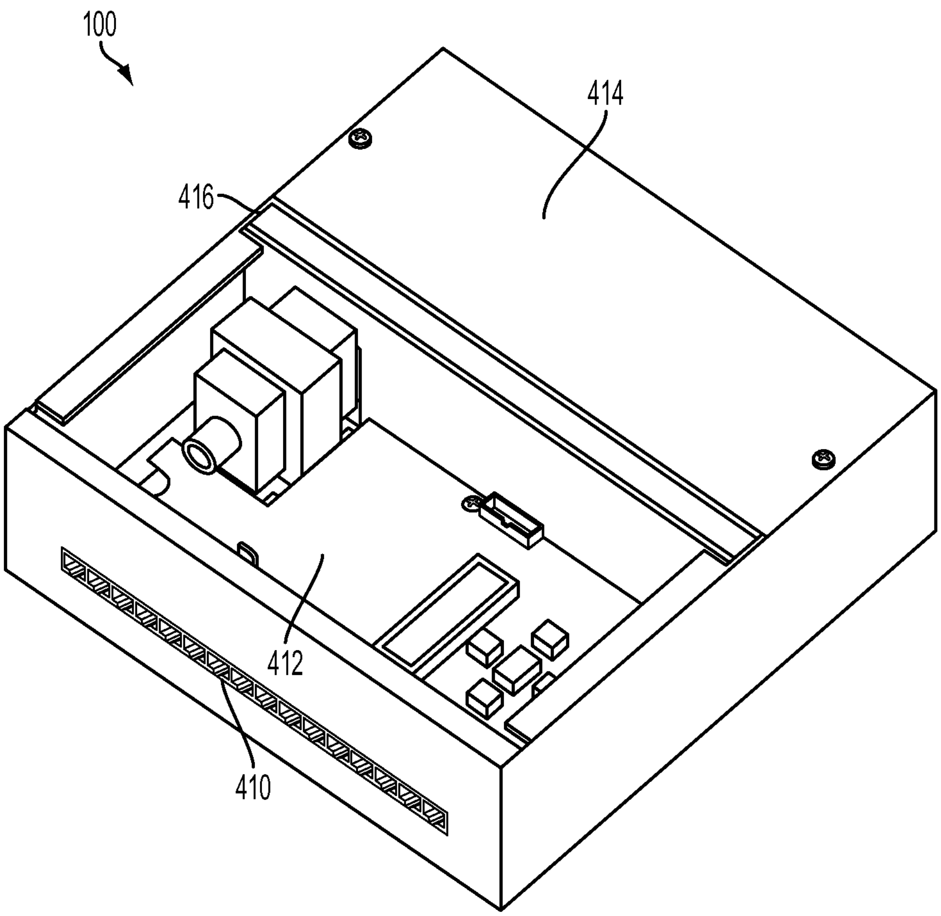


FIG. 4(b)

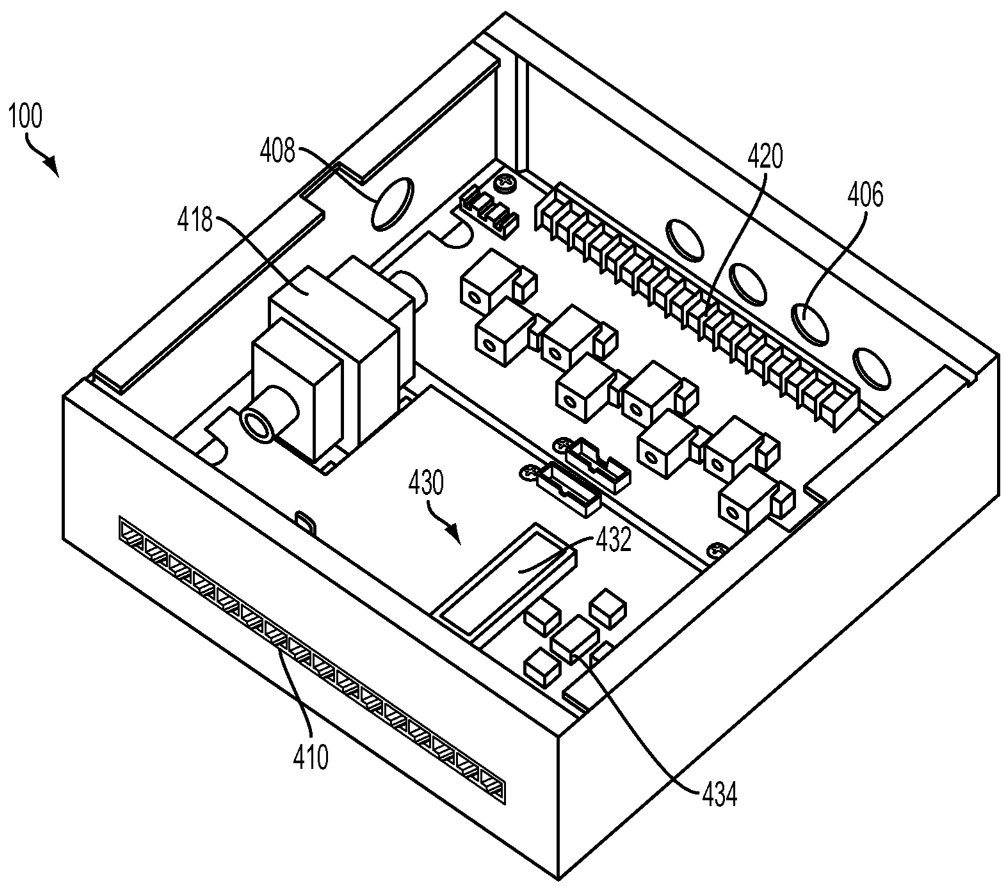


FIG. 4(c)

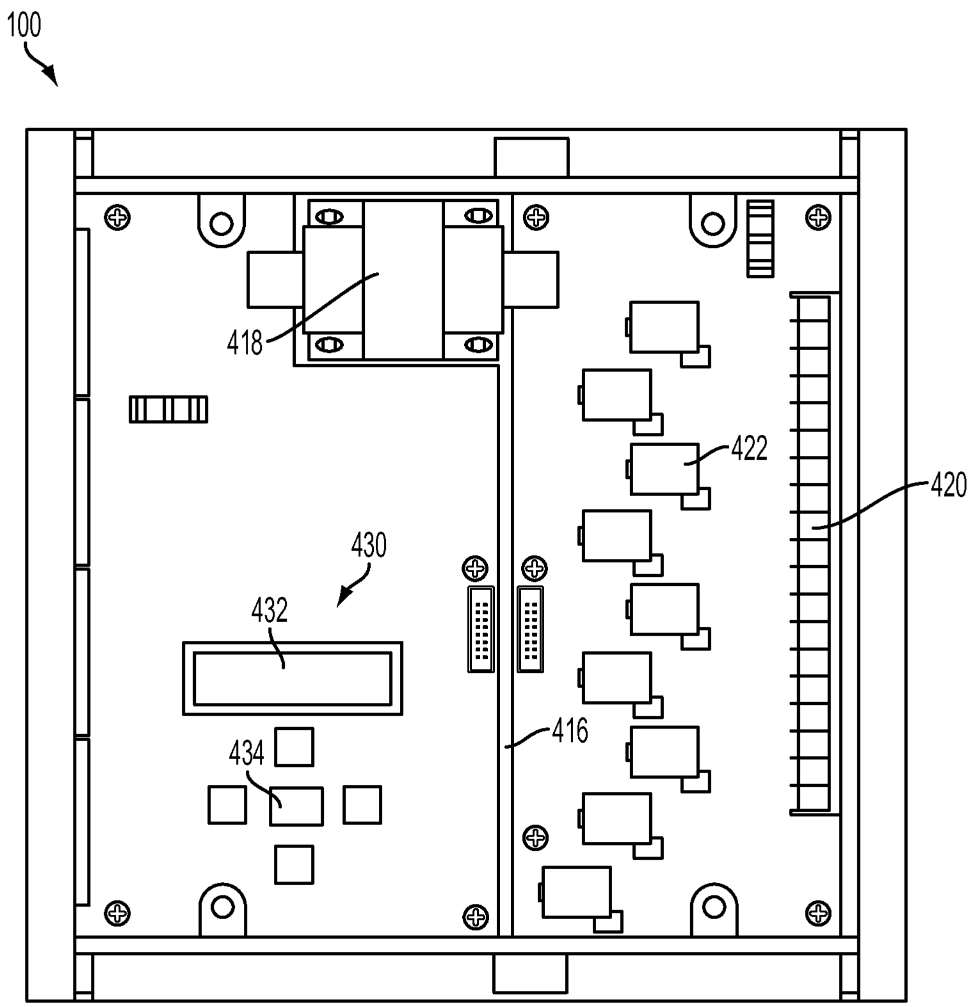


FIG. 5

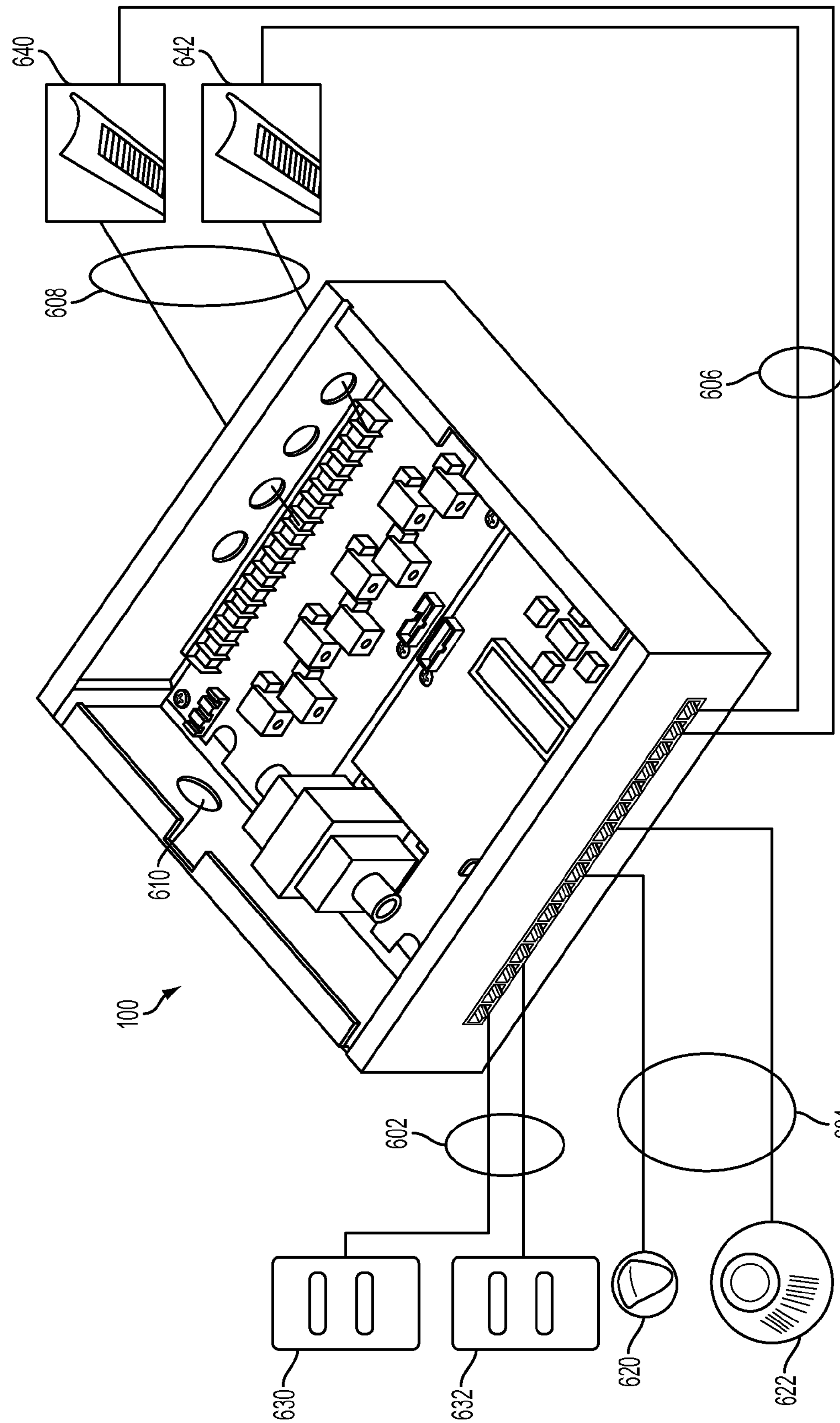


FIG. 6

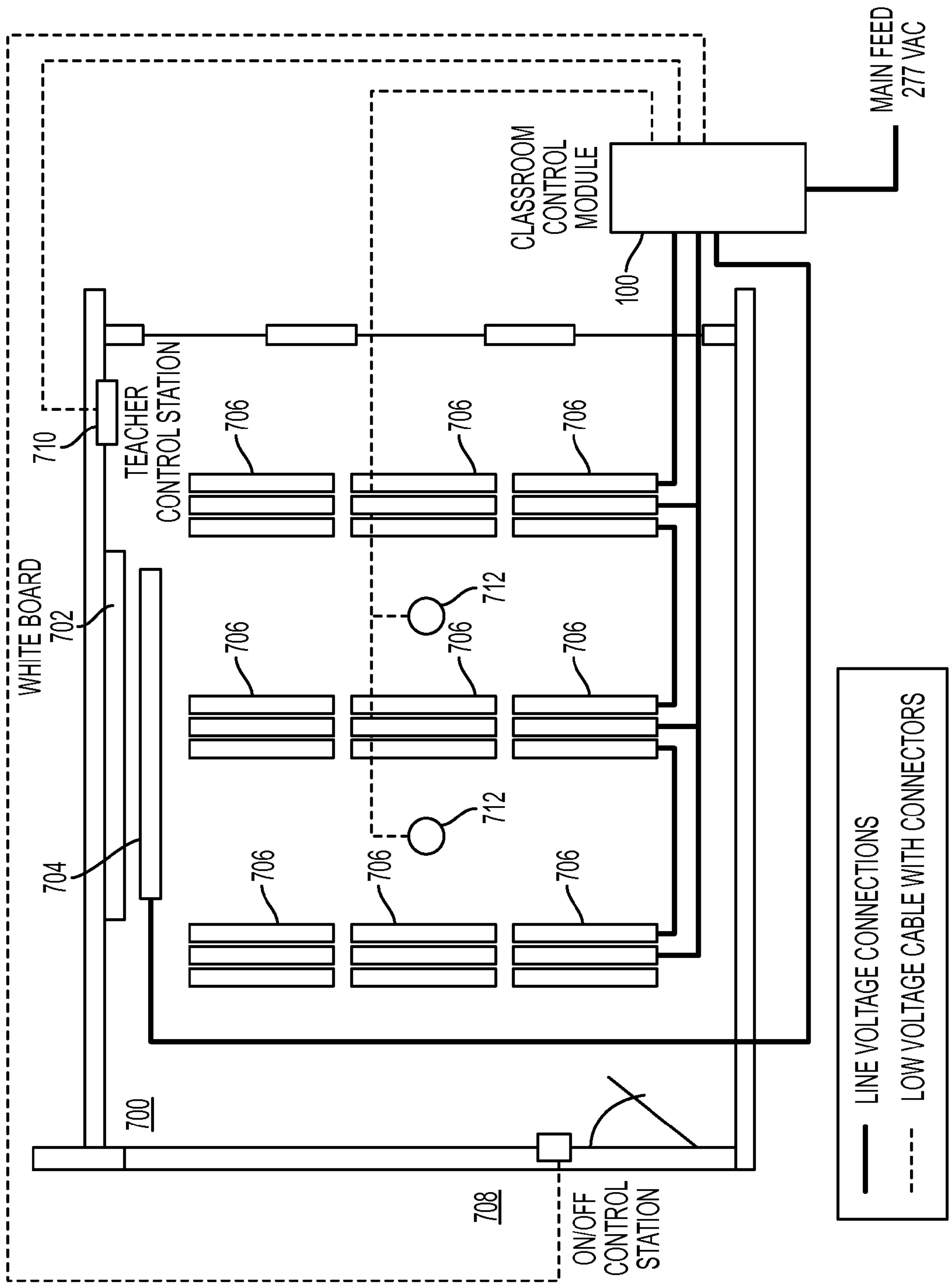

MAIN FEED
277 VAC
CLASSROOM
CONTROL
MODULE
100
TEACHER
CONTROL STATION
710
WHITE BOARD
702
704
706
712
700
708
ON/OFF
CONTROL
STATION
LINE VOLTAGE CONNECTIONS
LOW VOLTAGE CABLE WITH CONNECTORS

FIG. 7(a)

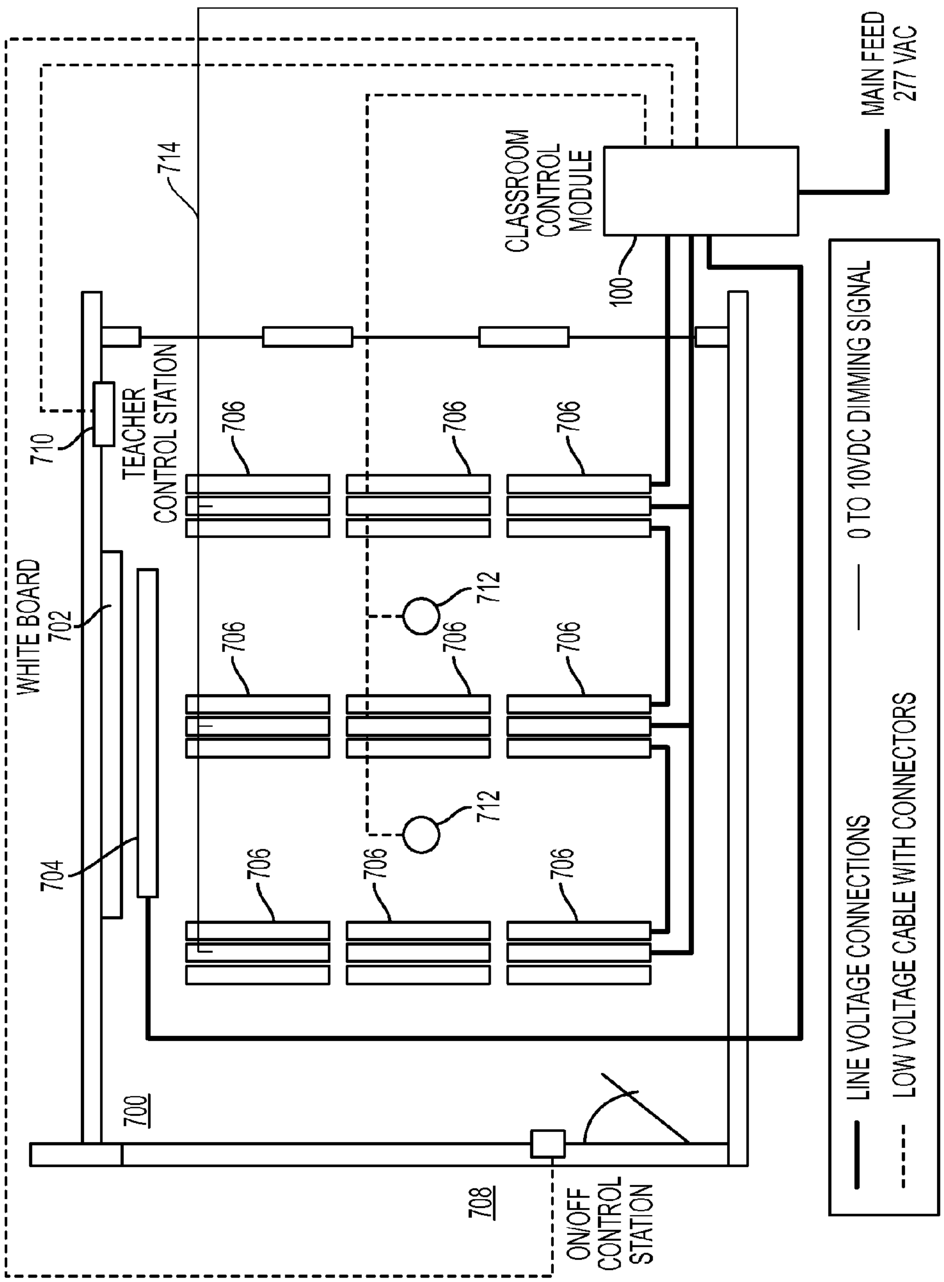

MAIN FEED
277 VAC
CLASSROOM
CONTROL
MODULE
100
714
710
TEACHER
CONTROL STATION
WHITE BOARD
702
704
706
712
700
708
ON/OFF
CONTROL
STATION
LINE VOLTAGE CONNECTIONS
LOW VOLTAGE CABLE WITH CONNECTORS
0 TO 10VDC DIMMING SIGNAL

FIG. 7(b)

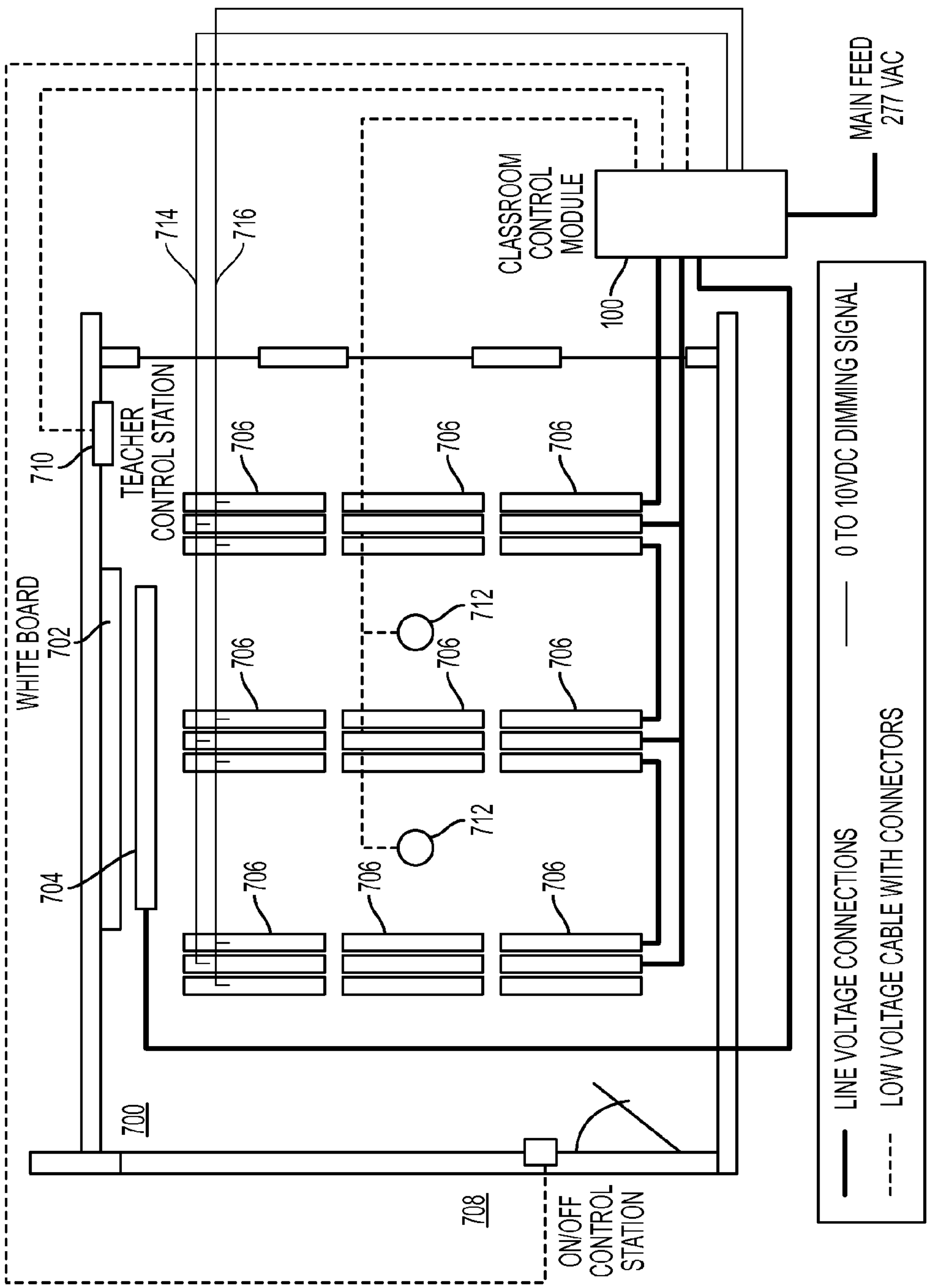

MAIN FEED
277 VAC
CLASSROOM
CONTROL
MODULE
100
714
716
710
TEACHER
CONTROL STATION
WHITE BOARD
702
704
706
712
700
708
ON/OFF
CONTROL
STATION
LINE VOLTAGE CONNECTIONS
LOW VOLTAGE CABLE WITH CONNECTORS
0 TO 10VDC DIMMING SIGNAL

FIG. 7(c)

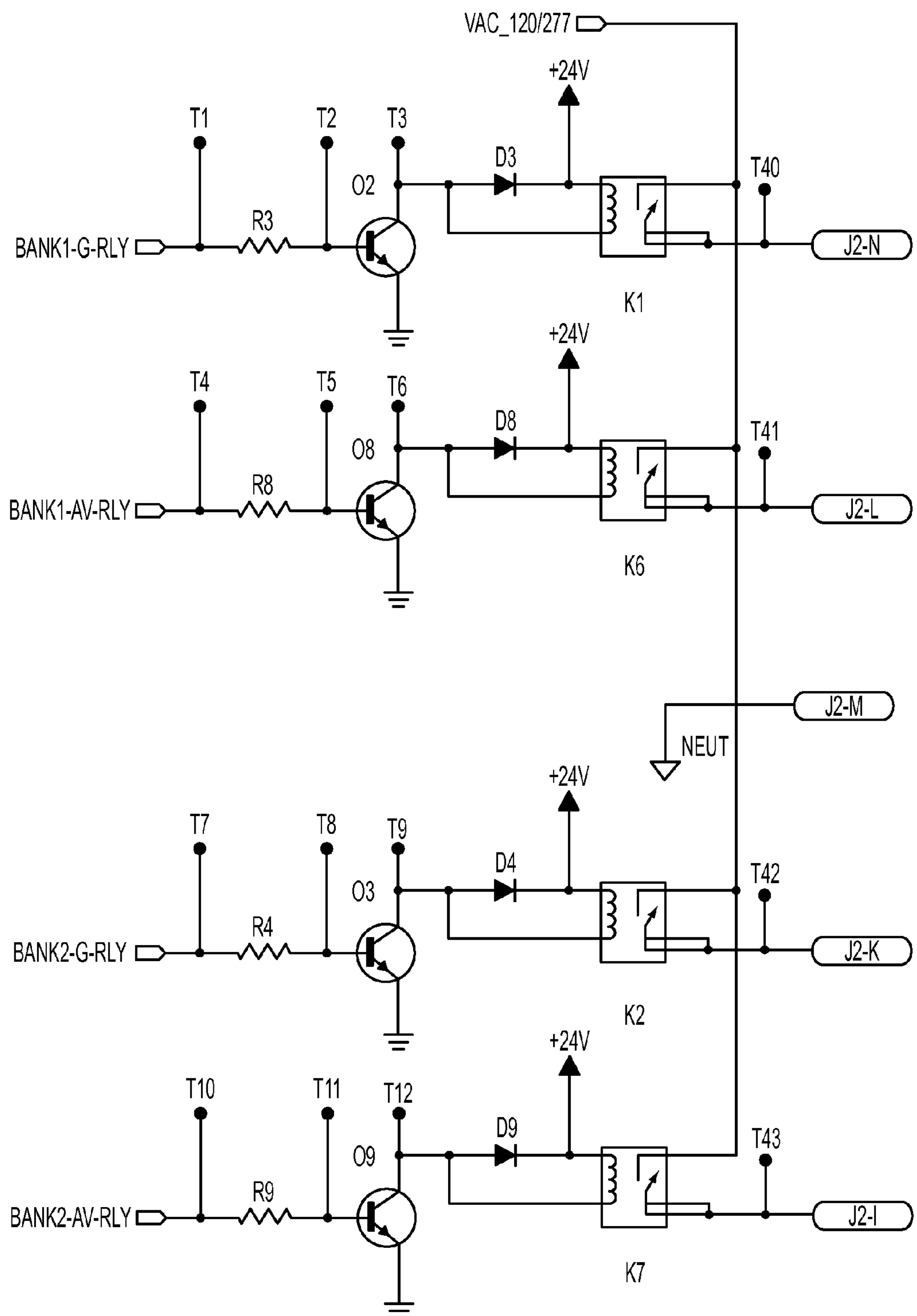

VAC_120/277
+24V
T1
T2
T3
D3
T40
O2
R3
BANK1-G-RLY
J2-N
K1
+24V
T4
T5
T6
D8
T41
O8
R8
BANK1-AV-RLY
J2-L
K6
J2-M
NEUT
+24V
T7
T8
T9
D4
T42
O3
R4
BANK2-G-RLY
J2-K
K2
+24V
T10
T11
T12
D9
T43
O9
R9
BANK2-AV-RLY
J2-I
K7

FIG. 8(a)

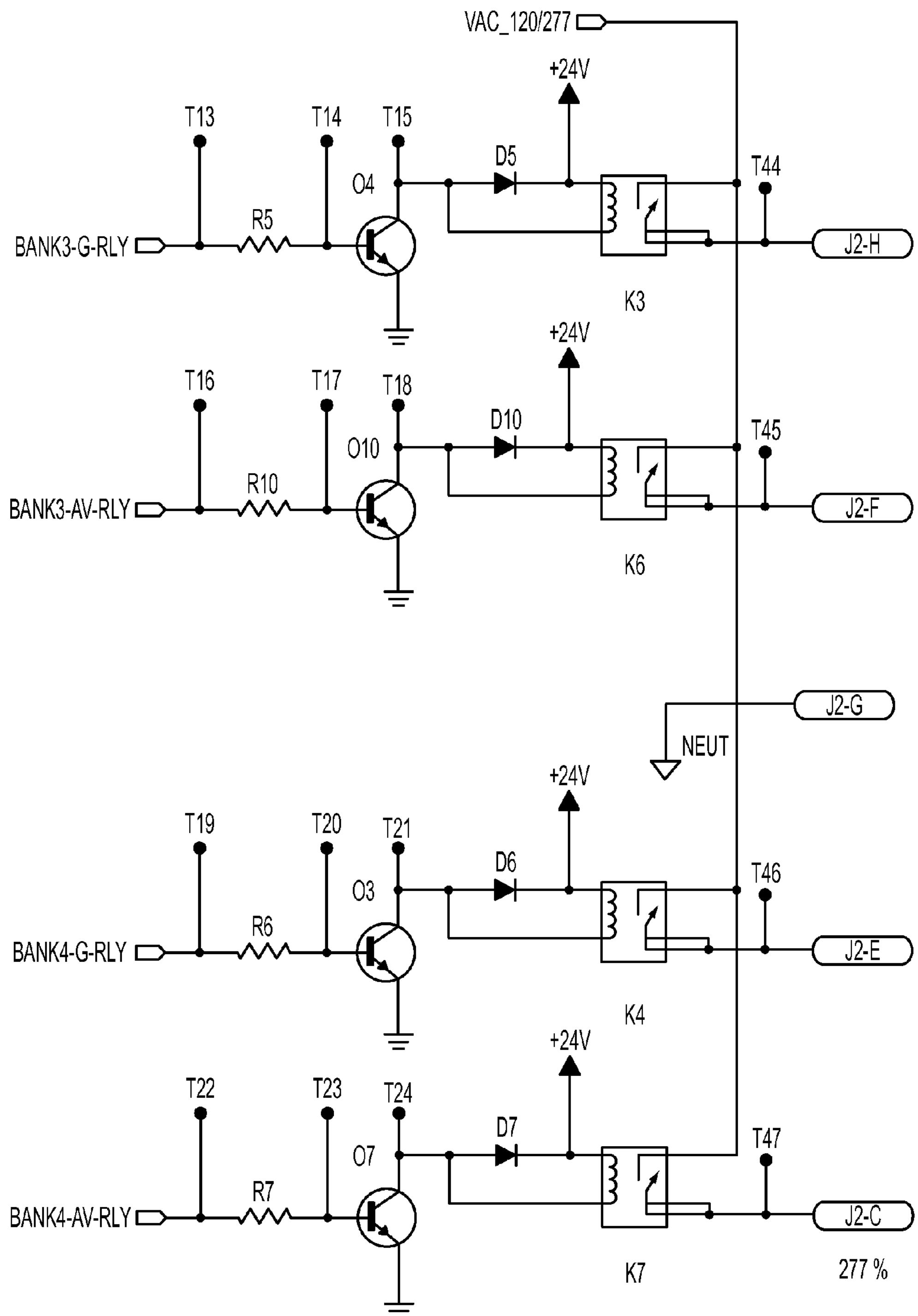

VAC_120/277
+24V
T13
T14
T15
D5
T44
O4
R5
BANK3-G-RLY
J2-H
K3
+24V
T16
T17
T18
D10
T45
O10
R10
BANK3-AV-RLY
J2-F
K6
J2-G
NEUT
+24V
T19
T20
T21
D6
T46
O3
R6
BANK4-G-RLY
J2-E
K4
+24V
T22
T23
T24
D7
T47
O7
R7
BANK4-AV-RLY
J2-C
K7
277 %

FIG. 8(b)

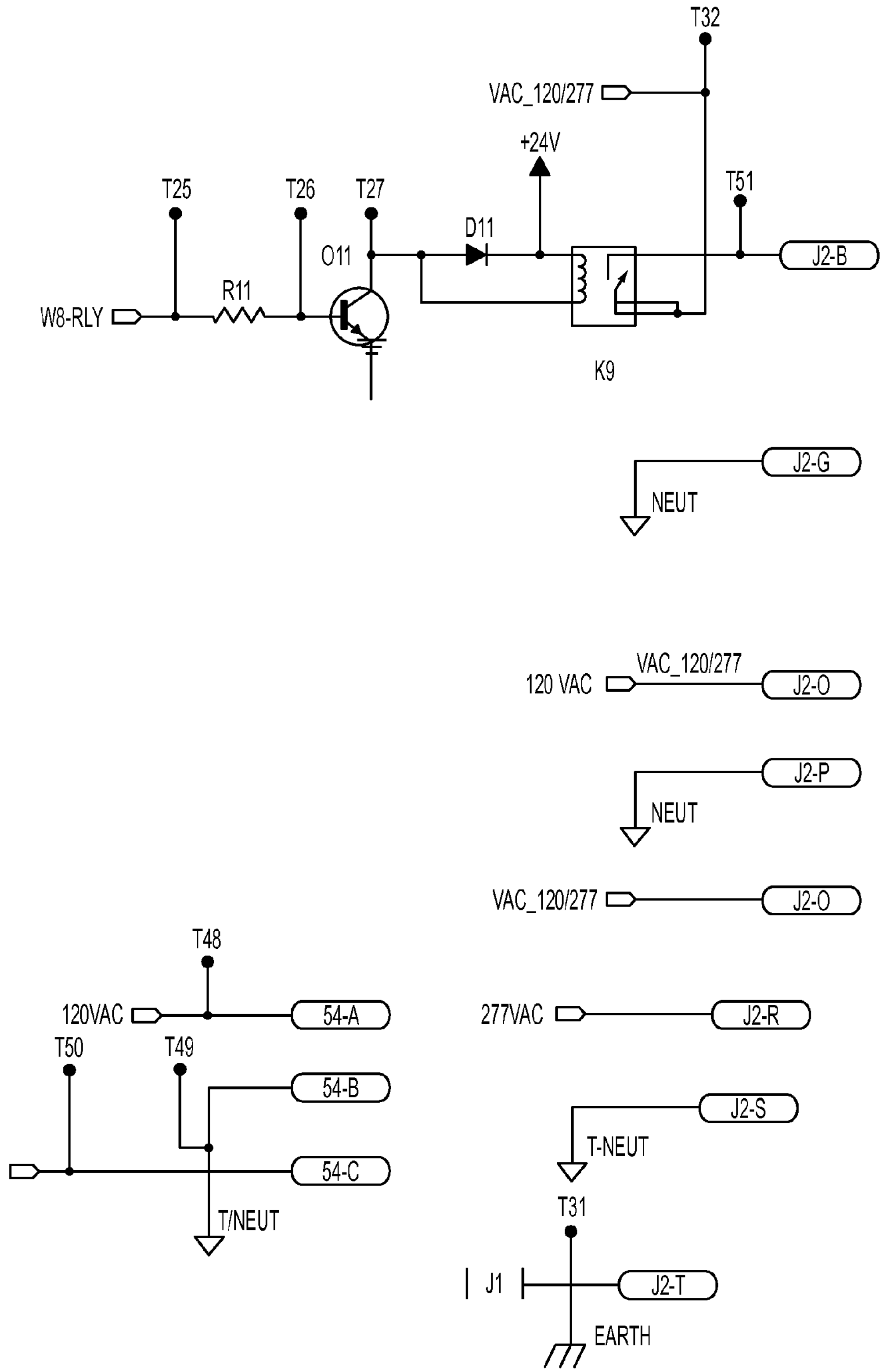

T32
VAC_120/277
+24V
T25
T26
T27
T51
D11
O11
J2-B
R11
W8-RLY
K9
J2-G
NEUT
120 VAC
VAC_120/277
J2-O
J2-P
NEUT
VAC_120/277
J2-O
T48
120VAC
54-A
277VAC
J2-R
T50
T49
54-B
J2-S
T-NEUT
54-C
T/NEUT
T31
J1
J2-T
EARTH

FIG. 8(c)

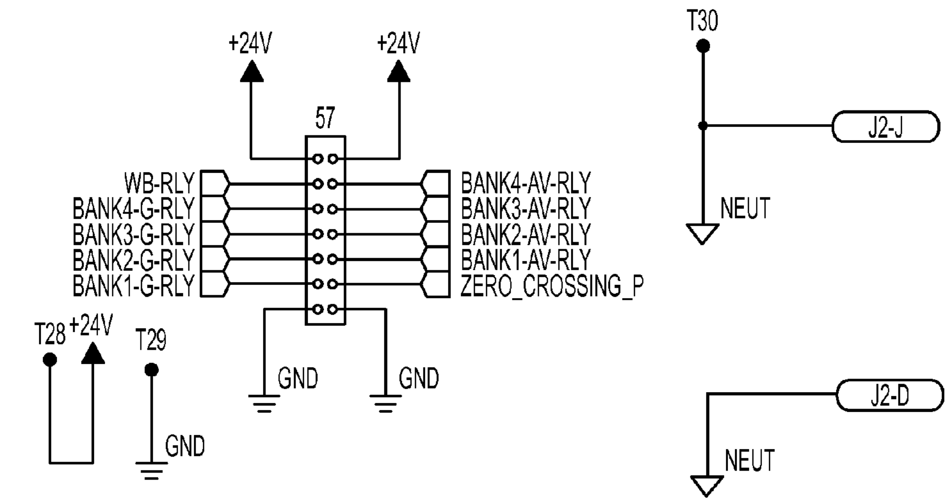

+24V
+24V
57
WB-RLY
BANK4-G-RLY
BANK3-G-RLY
BANK2-G-RLY
BANK1-G-RLY
BANK4-AV-RLY
BANK3-AV-RLY
BANK2-AV-RLY
BANK1-AV-RLY
ZERO_CROSSING_P
T28
+24V
T29
GND
GND
GND
T30
J2-J
NEUT
J2-D
NEUT

FIG. 8(d)

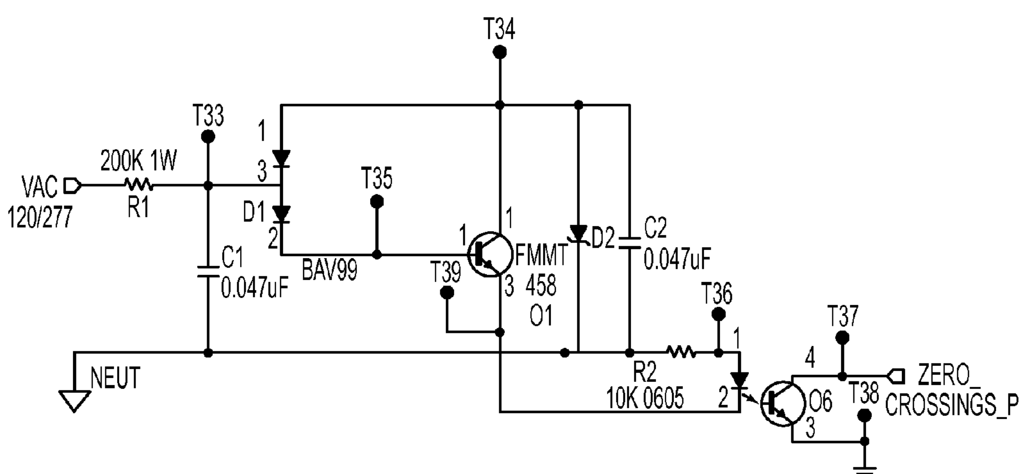

T34
T33
200K 1W
R1
VAC
120/277
1
3
D1
2
BAV99
T35
C1
0.047uF
1
1
FMMT
458
O1
3
T39
D2
C2
0.047uF
T36
1
2
R2
10K 0605
NEUT
T37
4
T38
O6
3
ZERO_
CROSSINGS_P

FIG. 8(e)

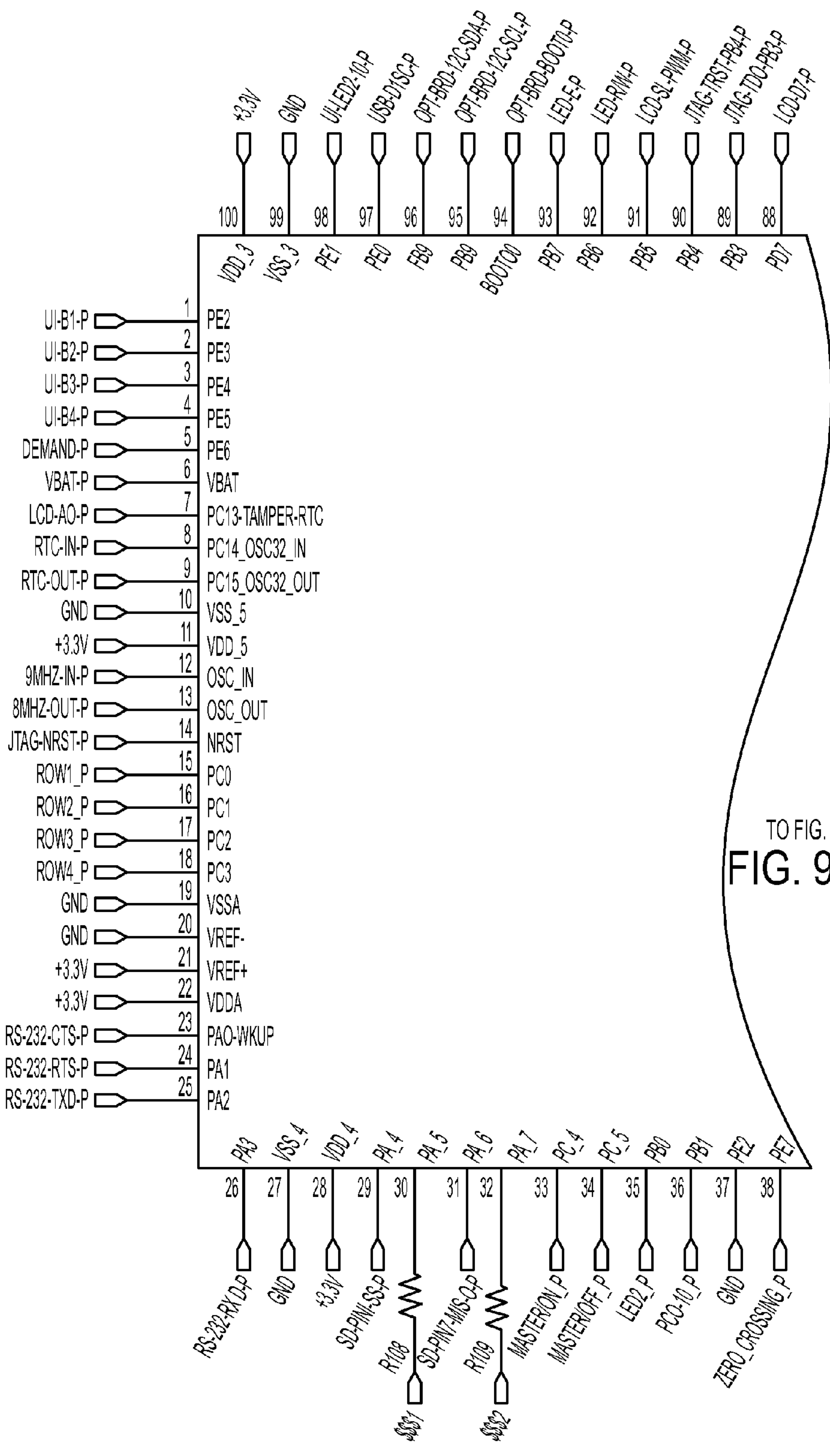

+3.3V
GND
UI-LED2-10-P
USB-D1SC-P
OPT-BRD-12C-SDA-P
OPT-BRD-12C-SCL-P
OPT-BRD-BOOT0-P
LED-E-P
LED-RW-P
LCD-SL-PWM-P
JTAG-TRST-PB4-P
JTAG-TDO-PB3-P
LCD-D7-P
100 VDD_3
99 VSS_3
98 PE1
97 PE0
96 FB9
95 PB9
94 BOOT0
93 PB7
92 PB6
91 PB5
90 PB4
89 PB3
88 PD7
UI-B1-P 1 PE2
UI-B2-P 2 PE3
UI-B3-P 3 PE4
UI-B4-P 4 PE5
DEMAND-P 5 PE6
VBAT-P 6 VBAT
LCD-AO-P 7 PC13-TAMPER-RTC
RTC-IN-P 8 PC14_OSC32_IN
RTC-OUT-P 9 PC15_OSC32_OUT
GND 10 VSS_5
+3.3V 11 VDD_5
9MHZ-IN-P 12 OSC_IN
8MHZ-OUT-P 13 OSC_OUT
JTAG-NRST-P 14 NRST
ROW1_P 15 PC0
ROW2_P 16 PC1
ROW3_P 17 PC2
ROW4_P 18 PC3
GND 19 VSSA
GND 20 VREF-
+3.3V 21 VREF+
+3.3V 22 VDDA
RS-232-CTS-P 23 PAO-WKUP
RS-232-RTS-P 24 PA1
RS-232-TXD-P 25 PA2
PA3 26
VSS_4 27
VDD_4 28
PA_4 29
PA_5 30
PA_6 31
PA_7 32
PC_4 33
PC_5 34
PB0 35
PB1 36
PE2 37
PE7 38
RS-232-RXD-P
GND
+3.3V
SD-PIN1-SS-P
R108
SD-PIN7-MIS-O-P
R109
MASTER/ON_P
MASTER/OFF_P
LED2_P
PCO-10_P
GND
ZERO_CROSSING_P
$$$1
$$$2
TO FIG. 9(a)-2

FIG. 9(a)-1

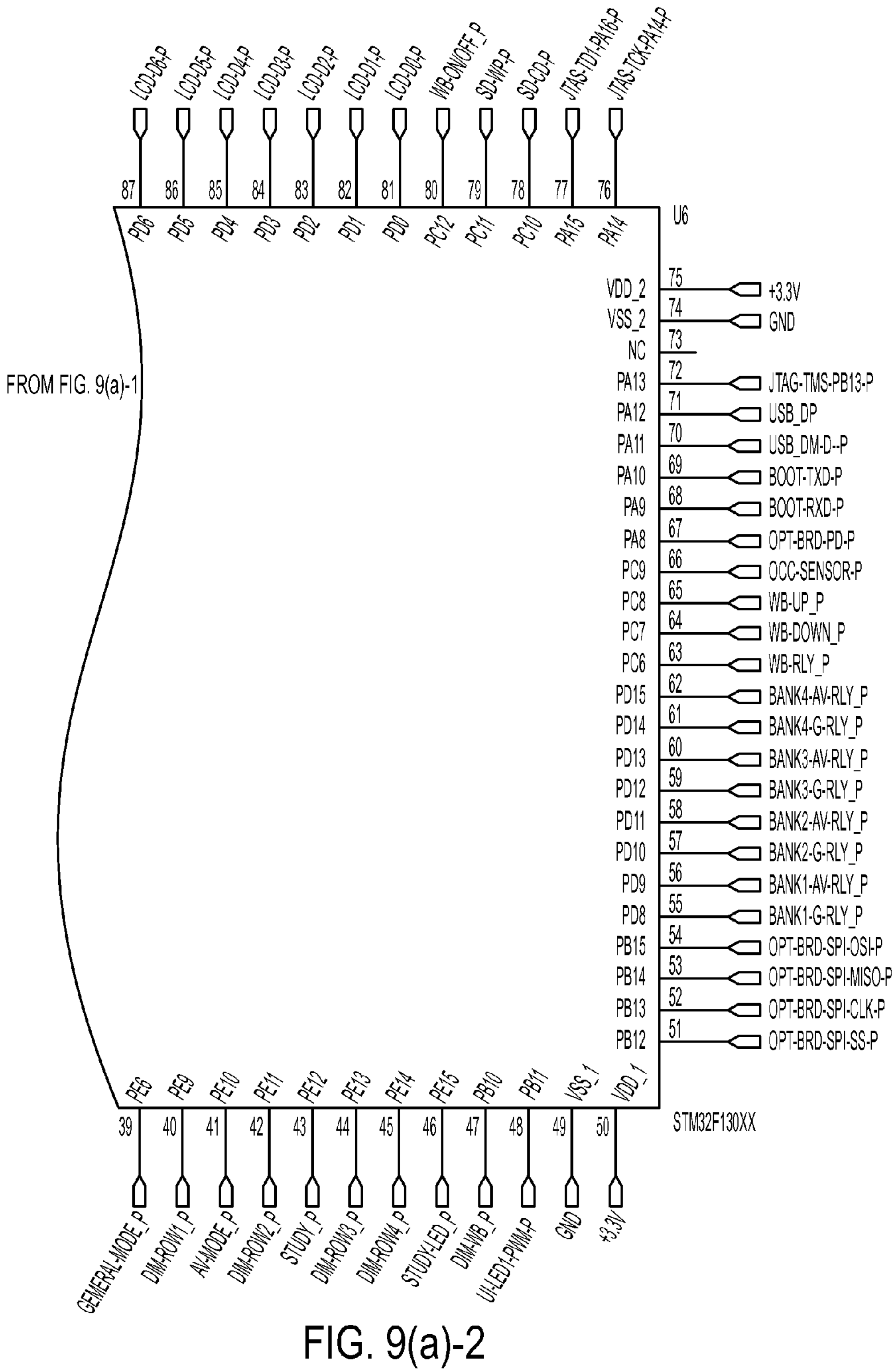

LCD-D6-P
LCD-D5-P
LCD-D4-P
LCD-D3-P
LCD-D2-P
LCD-D1-P
LCD-D0-P
WB-ON/OFF_P
SD-WP-P
SD-CD-P
JTAS-TD1-PA16-P
JTAS-TCK-PA14-P
87 86 85 84 83 82 81 80 79 78 77 76
PD6 PD5 PD4 PD3 PD2 PD1 PD0 PC12 PC11 PC10 PA15 PA14
U6
FROM FIG. 9(a)-1
VDD_2 75 +3.3V
VSS_2 74 GND
NC 73
PA13 72 JTAG-TMS-PB13-P
PA12 71 USB_DP
PA11 70 USB_DM-D--P
PA10 69 BOOT-TXD-P
PA9 68 BOOT-RXD-P
PA8 67 OPT-BRD-PD-P
PC9 66 OCC-SENSOR-P
PC8 65 WB-UP_P
PC7 64 WB-DOWN_P
PC6 63 WB-RLY_P
PD15 62 BANK4-AV-RLY_P
PD14 61 BANK4-G-RLY_P
PD13 60 BANK3-AV-RLY_P
PD12 59 BANK3-G-RLY_P
PD11 58 BANK2-AV-RLY_P
PD10 57 BANK2-G-RLY_P
PD9 56 BANK1-AV-RLY_P
PD8 55 BANK1-G-RLY_P
PB15 54 OPT-BRD-SPI-OSI-P
PB14 53 OPT-BRD-SPI-MISO-P
PB13 52 OPT-BRD-SPI-CLK-P
PB12 51 OPT-BRD-SPI-SS-P
PE6 PE9 PE10 PE11 PE12 PE13 PE14 PE15 PB10 PB11 VSS_1 VDD_1
STM32F130XX
39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50
GEMERAL-MODE_P
DIM-ROW1_P
AV-MODE_P
DIM-ROW2_P
STUDY_P
DIM-ROW3_P
DIM-ROW4_P
STUDY-LED_P
DIM-WB_P
UI-LED1-PWM-P
GND
+3.3V

FIG. 9(a)-2

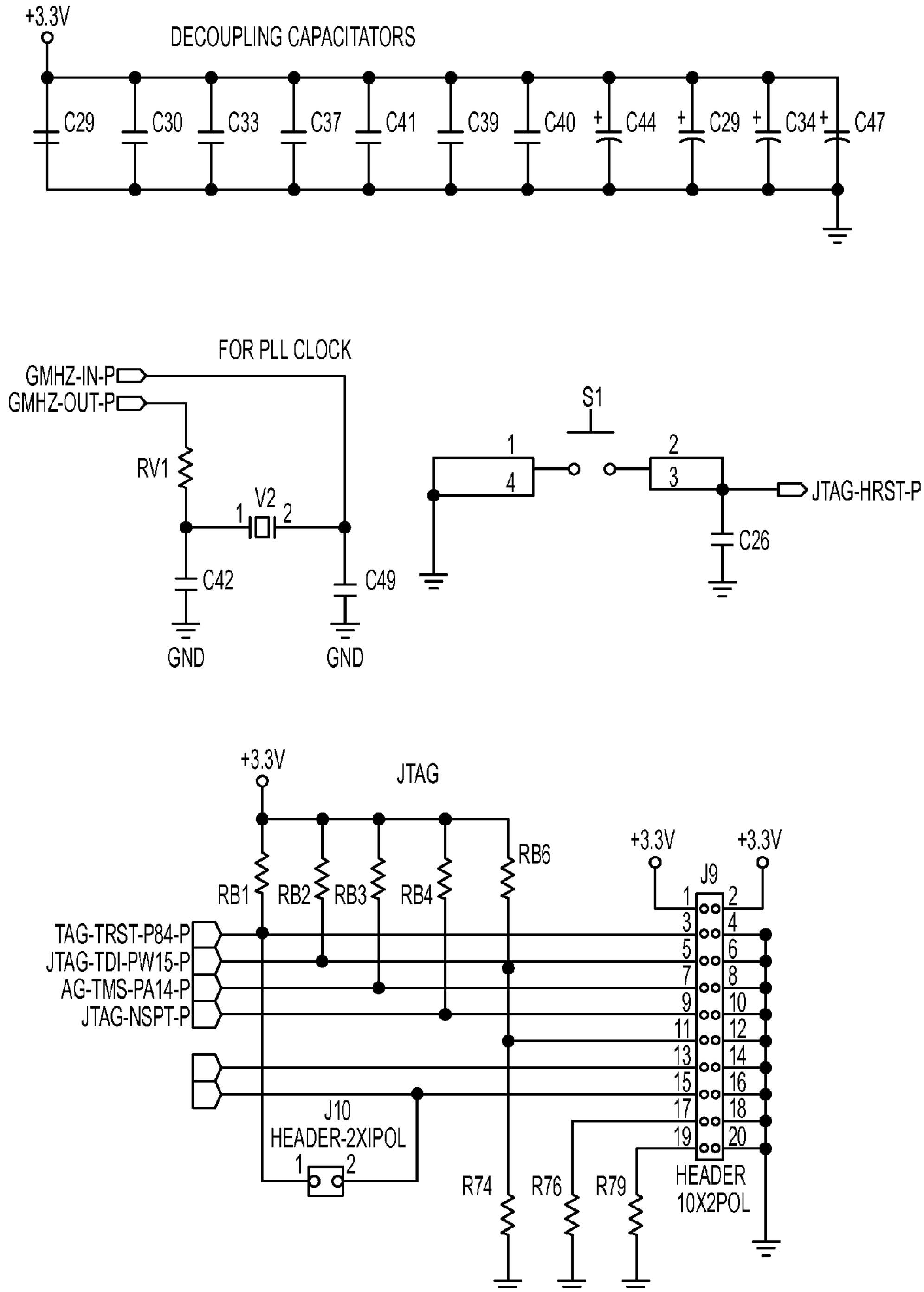

+3.3V
DECOUPLING CAPACITATORS
C29
C30
C33
C37
C41
C39
C40
C44
C29
C34
C47
FOR PLL CLOCK
GMHZ-IN-P
GMHZ-OUT-P
RV1
V2
C42
C49
GND
GND
S1
JTAG-HRST-P
C26
+3.3V
JTAG
RB1
RB2
RB3
RB4
RB6
TAG-TRST-P84-P
JTAG-TDI-PW15-P
AG-TMS-PA14-P
JTAG-NSPT-P
J10
HEADER-2XIPOL
R74
R76
R79
J9
HEADER
10X2POL

FIG. 9(b)-1

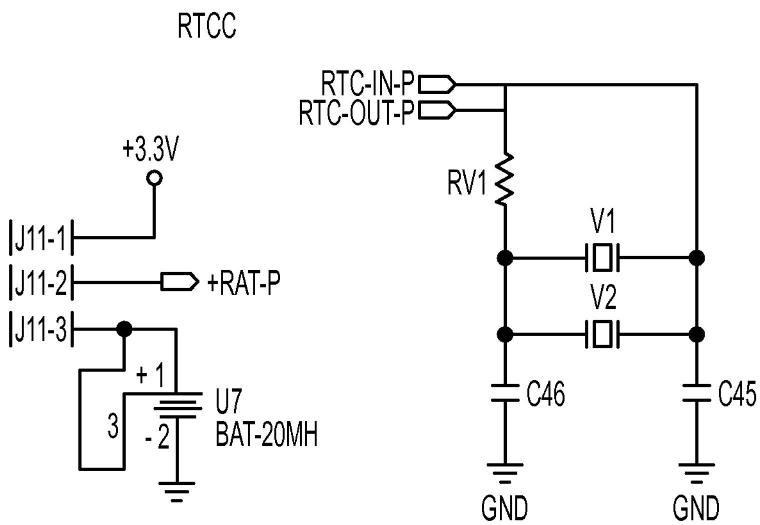
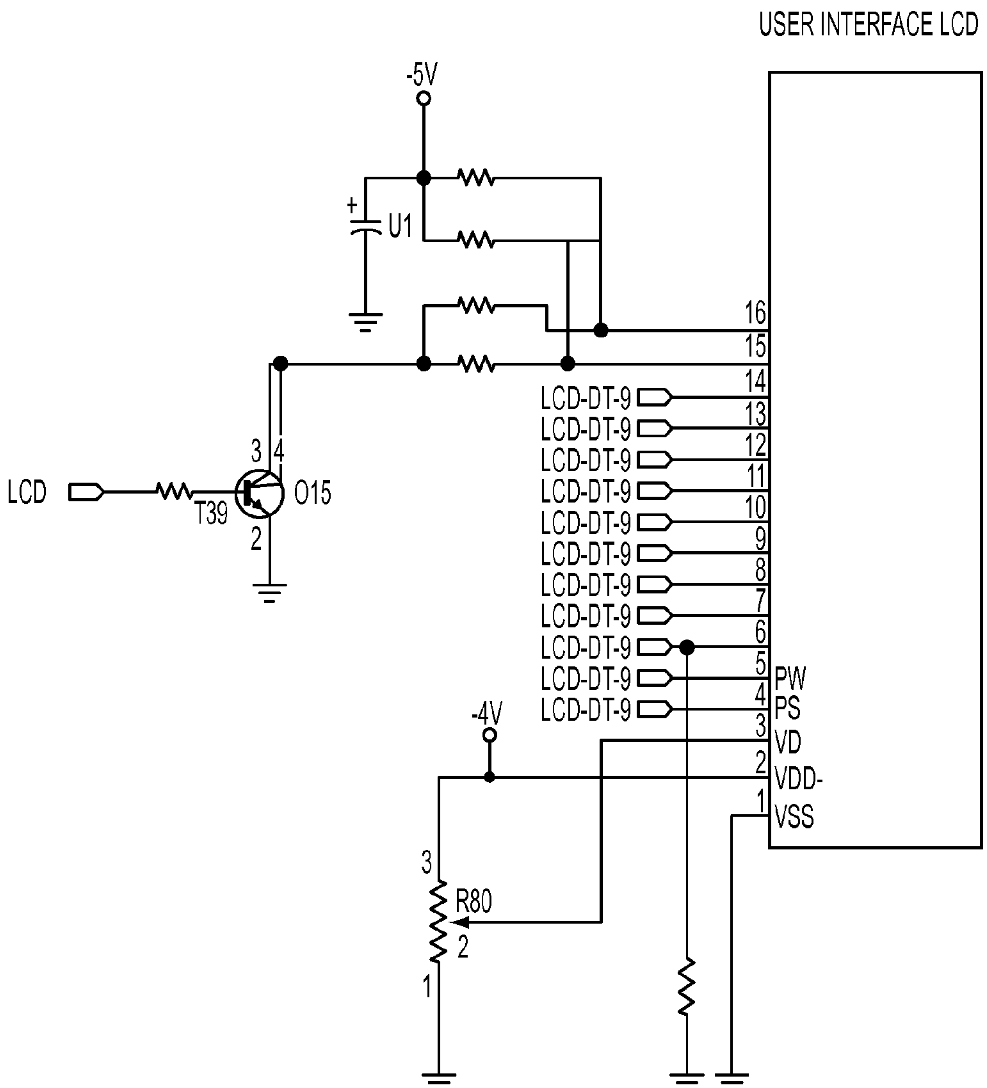

RTCC
RTC-IN-P
RTC-OUT-P
+3.3V
RV1
V1
V2
J11-1
J11-2
+RAT-P
J11-3
+ 1
3
- 2
U7
BAT-20MH
C46
C45
GND
GND

FIG. 9(b)-2



USER INTERFACE LCD
-5V
U1
16
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
LCD-DT-9
LCD-DT-9
LCD-DT-9
LCD-DT-9
LCD-DT-9
LCD-DT-9
LCD-DT-9
LCD-DT-9
LCD-DT-9
LCD-DT-9
LCD-DT-9
PW
PS
VD
VDD-
VSS
LCD
T39
O15
3
4
2
-4V
R80
3
2
1

FIG. 9(c)-1

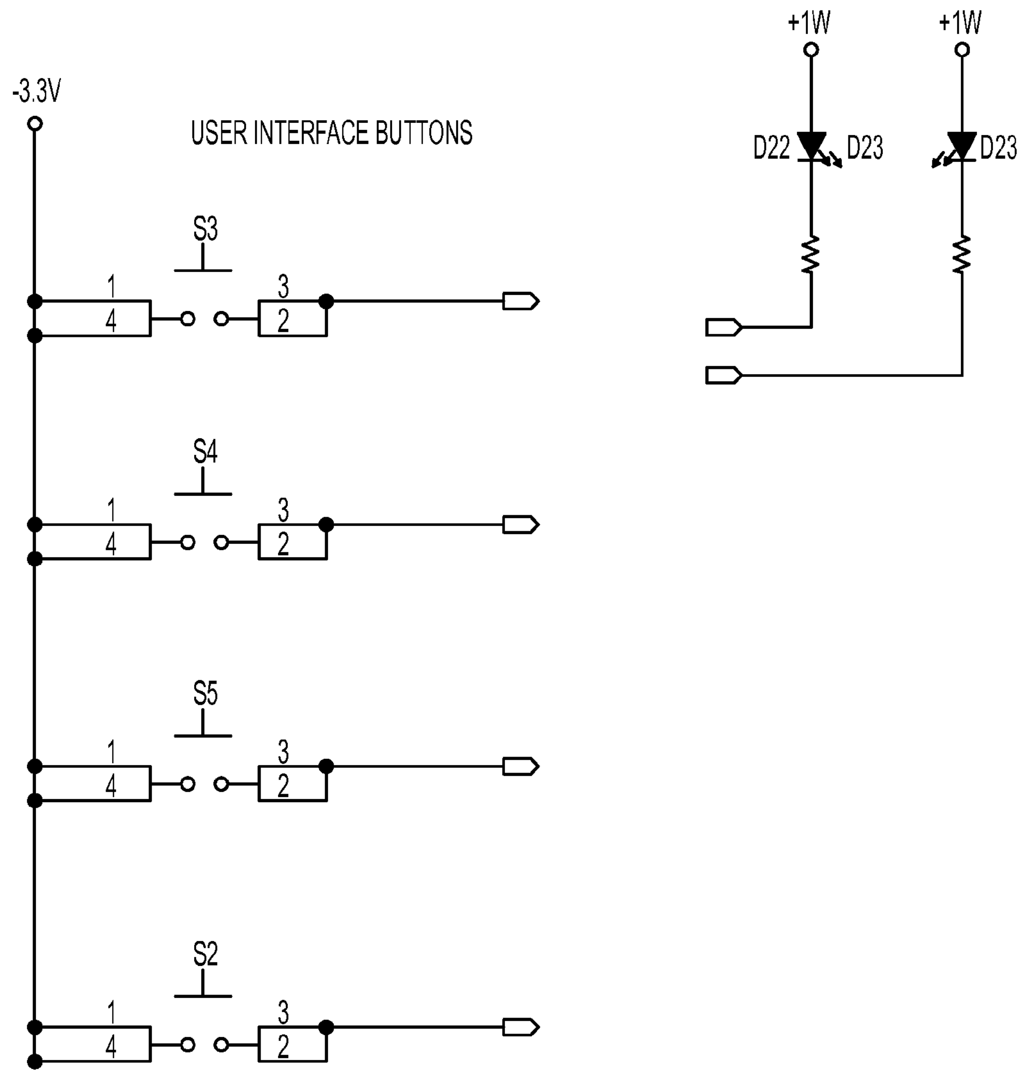

-3.3V
USER INTERFACE BUTTONS
S3
1
4
3
2
S4
1
4
3
2
S5
1
4
3
2
S2
1
4
3
2
+1W
+1W
D22
D23
D23

FIG. 9(c)-2

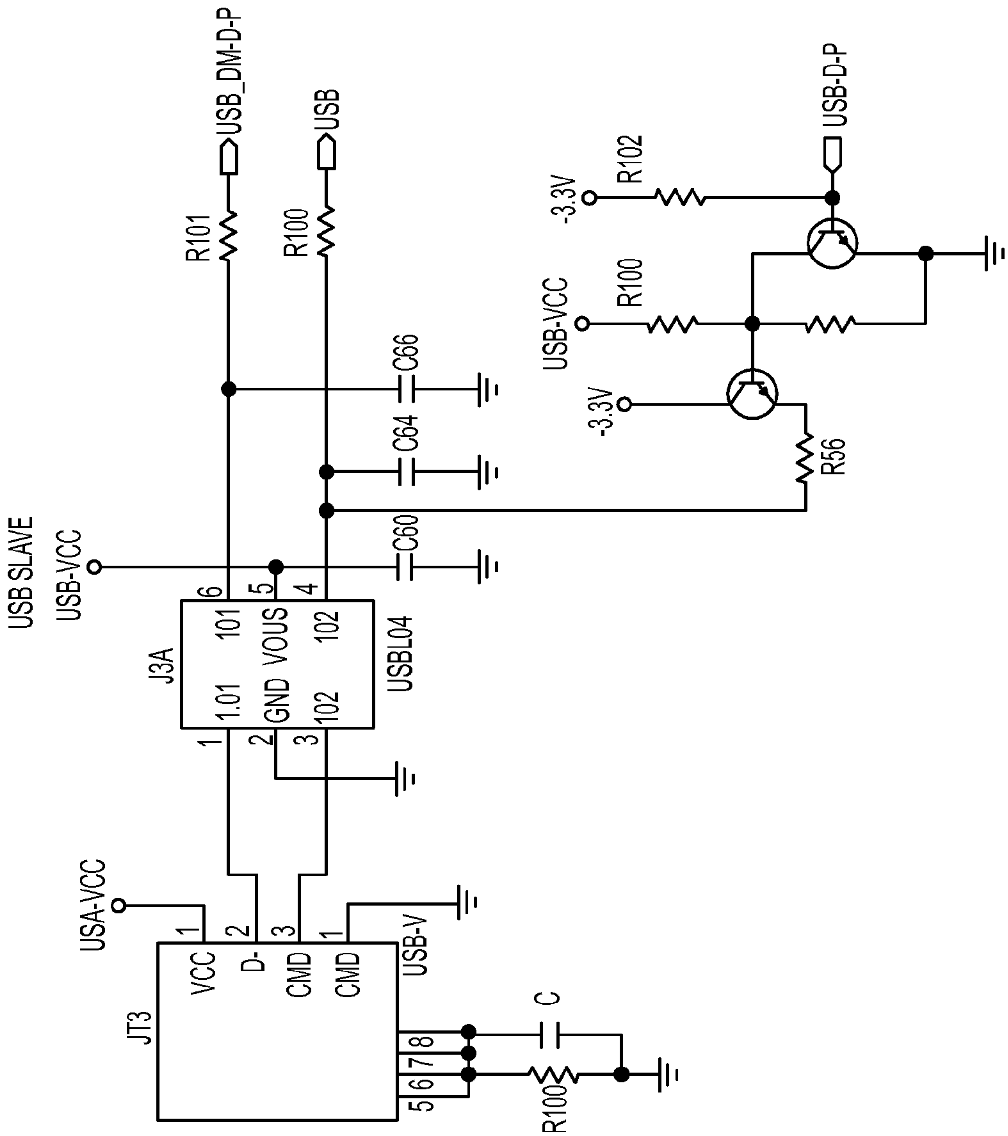

USB_DM-D-P
USB
USB-D-P
R101
R100
R102
-3.3V
USB-VCC
R100
-3.3V
C66
C64
C60
R56
USB SLAVE
USB-VCC
J3A
101
VOUS
102
1.01
GND
102
USBL04
USA-VCC
JT3
VCC
D-
CMD
CMD
USB-V
C
R100

FIG. 9(d)-1

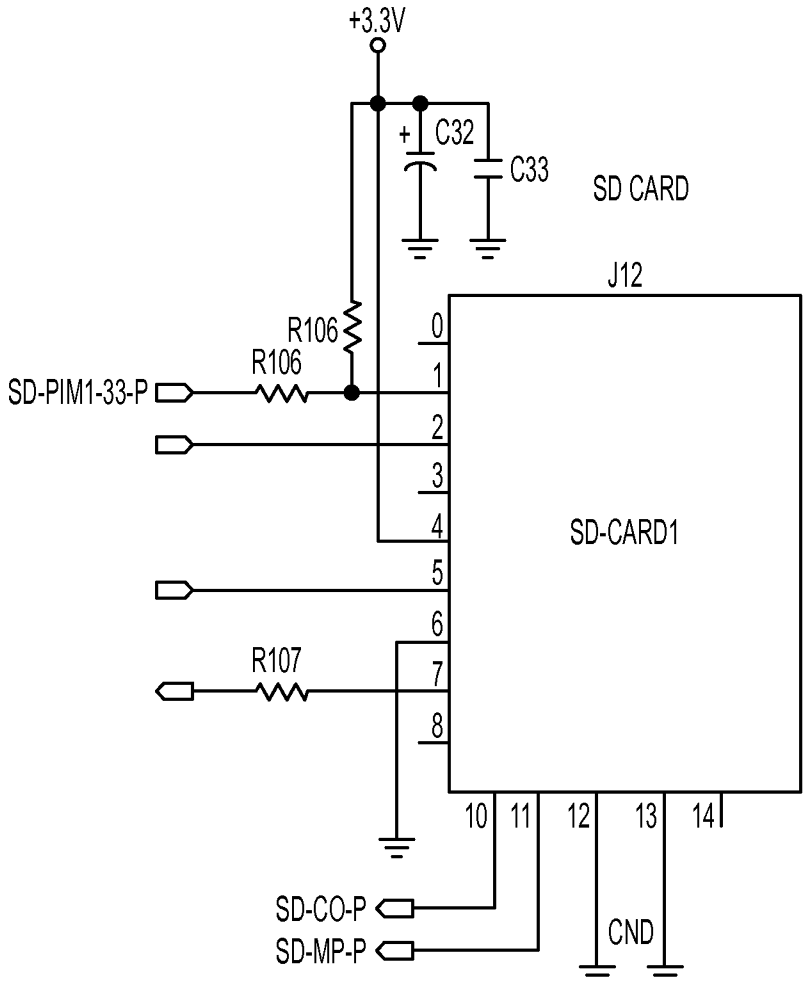

+3.3V
C32
C33
SD CARD
J12
R106
R106
SD-PIM1-33-P
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
SD-CARD1
R107
10
11
12
13
14
SD-CO-P
SD-MP-P
CND

FIG. 9(d)-2

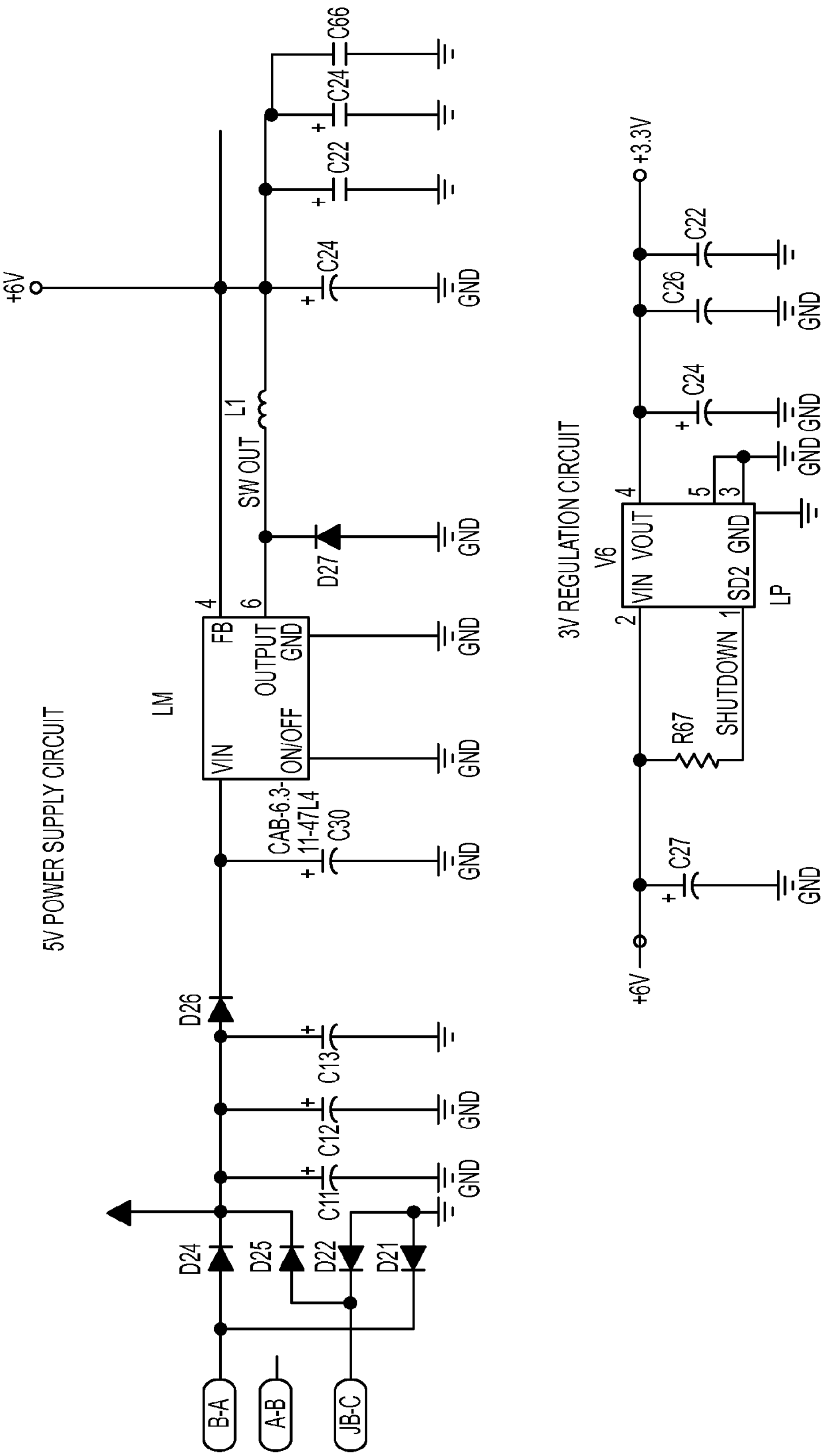

5V POWER SUPPLY CIRCUIT
B-A
A-B
JB-C
D24
D25
D22
D21
C11
C12
C13
D26
GND
CAB-6.3-
11-47L4
C30
LM
VIN
ON/OFF
OUTPUT
GND
FB
4
6
D27
SW OUT
L1
+6V
C24
C22
C24
C66
3V REGULATION CIRCUIT
+6V
C27
R67
SHUTDOWN
V6
VIN
VOUT
SD2
GND
LP
2
1
4
5
3
C24
C26
C22
+3.3V
GND

FIG. 9(e)

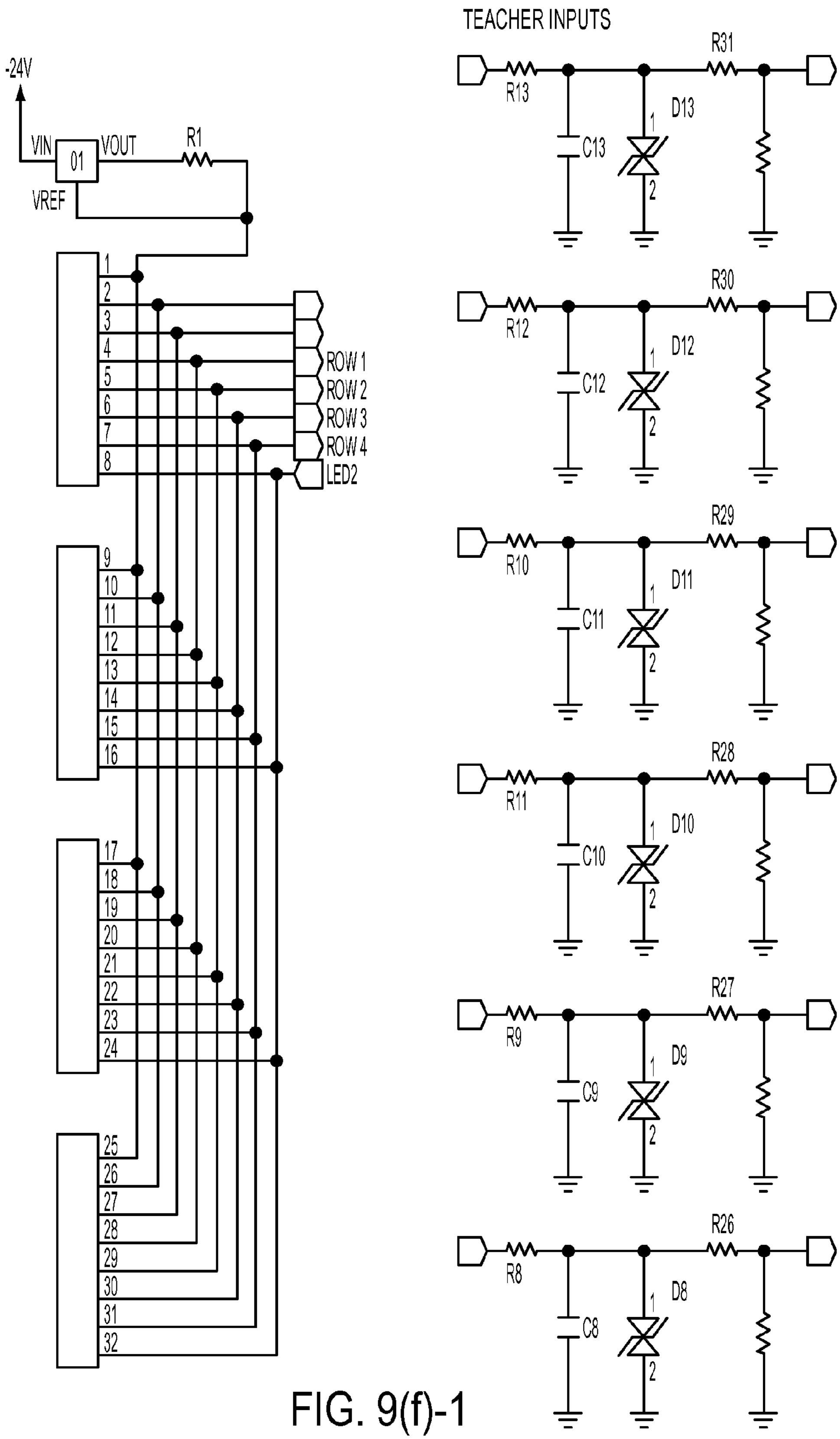

TEACHER INPUTS
-24V
VIN
01
VOUT
VREF
R1
ROW 1
ROW 2
ROW 3
ROW 4
LED2
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
R13
R31
C13
D13
R12
R30
C12
D12
R10
R29
C11
D11
R11
R28
C10
D10
R9
R27
C9
D9
R8
R26
C8
D8

FIG. 9(f)-1

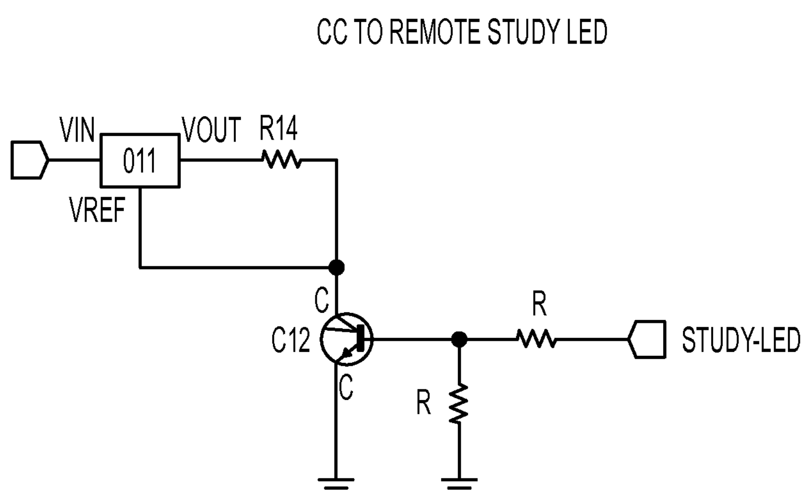

CC TO REMOTE STUDY LED
VIN
011
VOUT
R14
VREF
C
C12
C
R
R
STUDY-LED

FIG. 9(f)-2

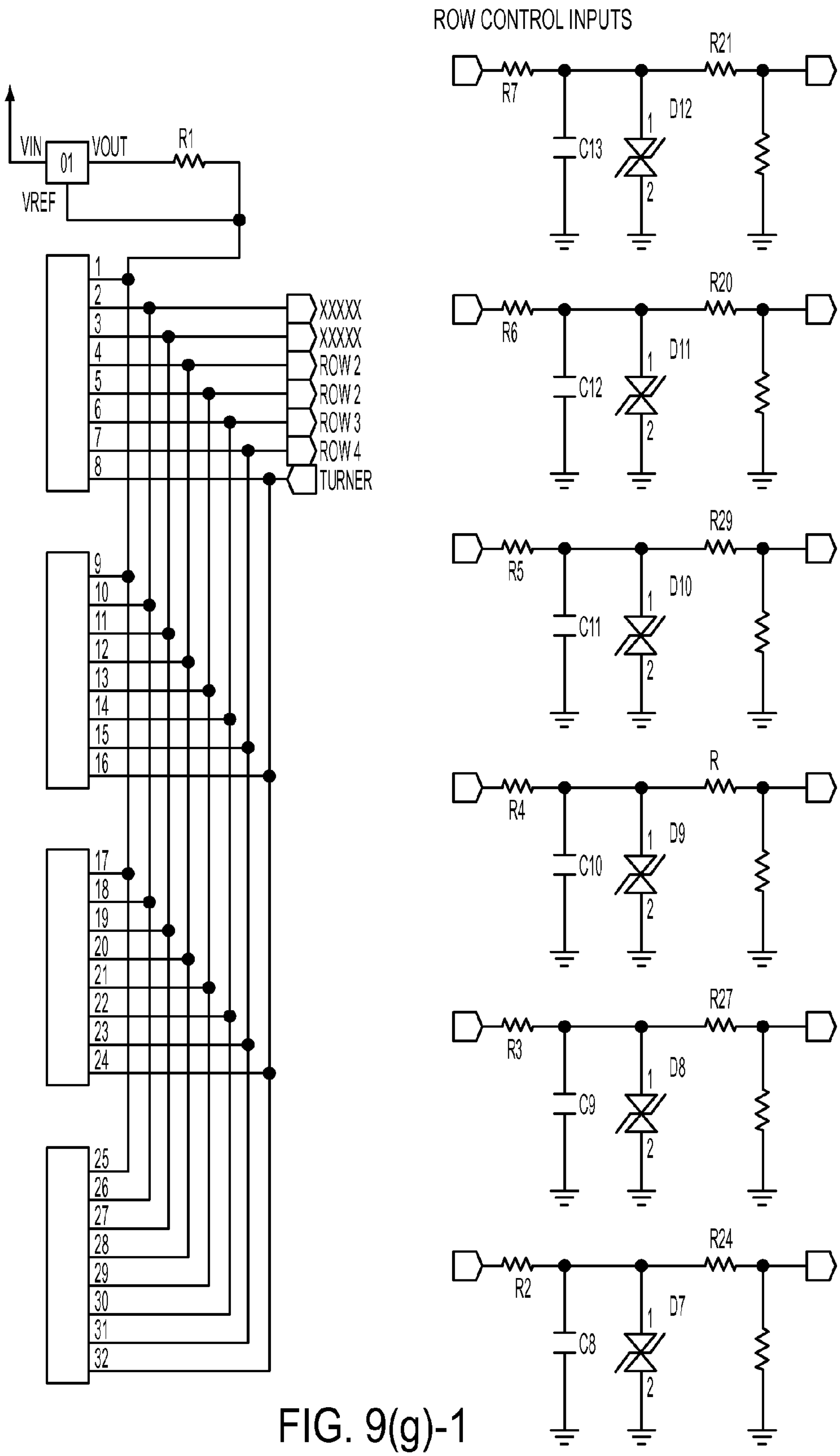

ROW CONTROL INPUTS
VIN
01
VOUT
R1
VREF
XXXXX
XXXXX
ROW 2
ROW 2
ROW 3
ROW 4
TURNER
R7
R21
C13
D12
R6
R20
C12
D11
R5
R29
C11
D10
R4
R
C10
D9
R3
R27
C9
D8
R2
R24
C8
D7

FIG. 9(g)-1

CC OPTIONAL REMOTE LED

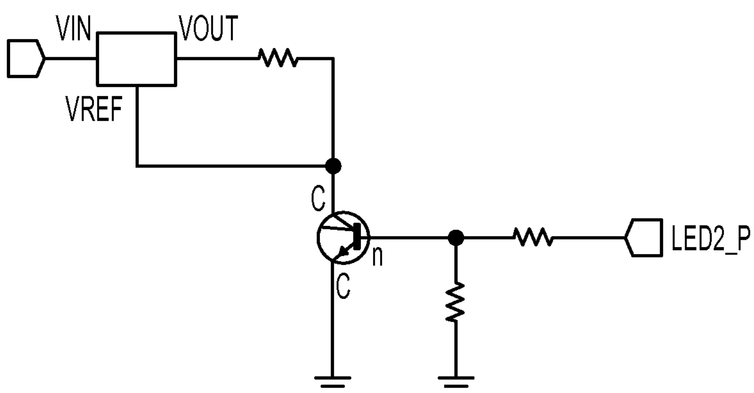


FIG. 9(g)-2

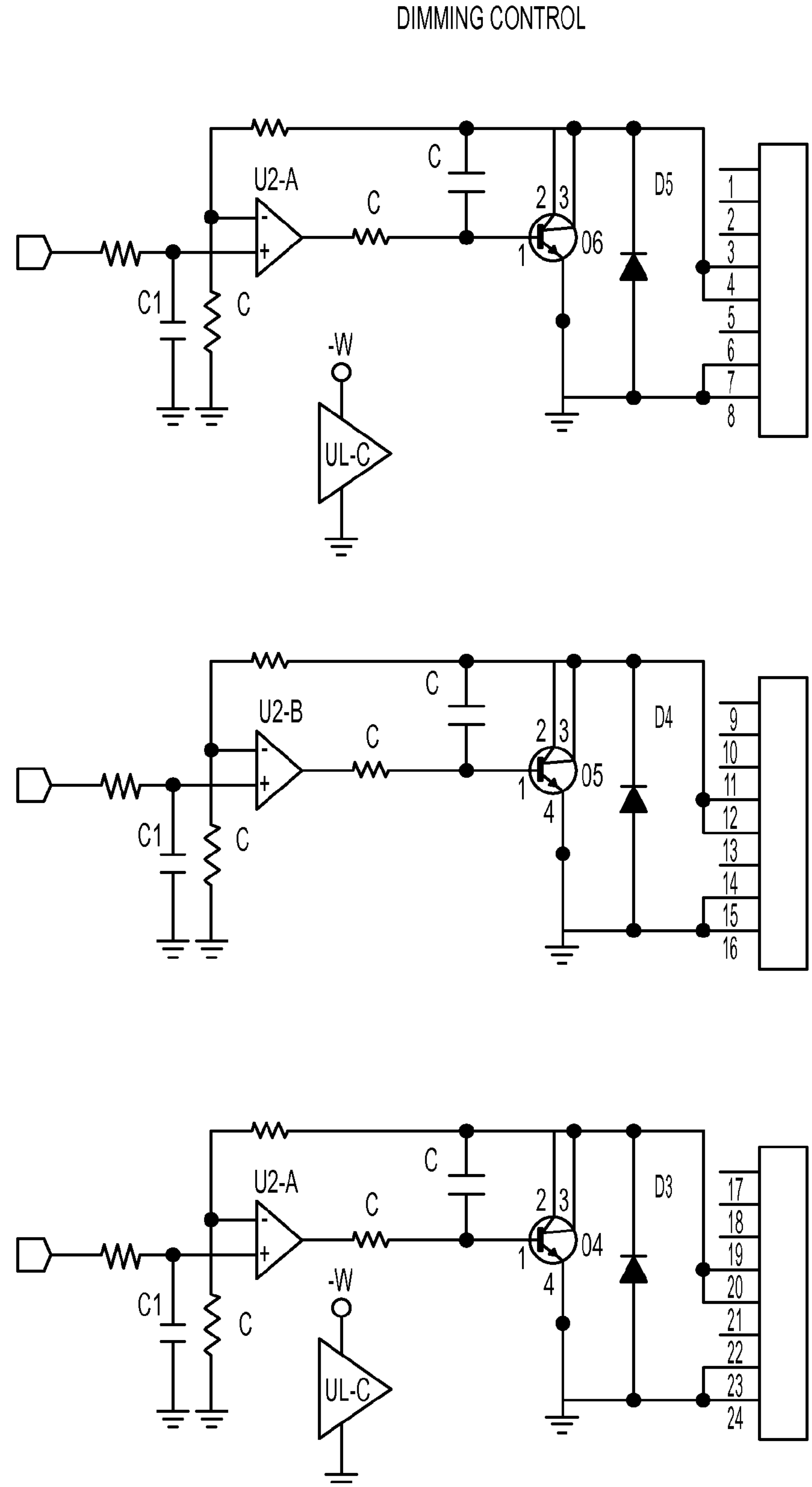

DIMMING CONTROL
U2-A
C
C
C1
C
2
3
1
06
D5
-W
UL-C
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
U2-B
C
C
C1
C
2
3
1
05
4
D4
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
U2-A
C
C
C1
C
2
3
1
04
4
D3
-W
UL-C
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

FIG. 9(h)-1

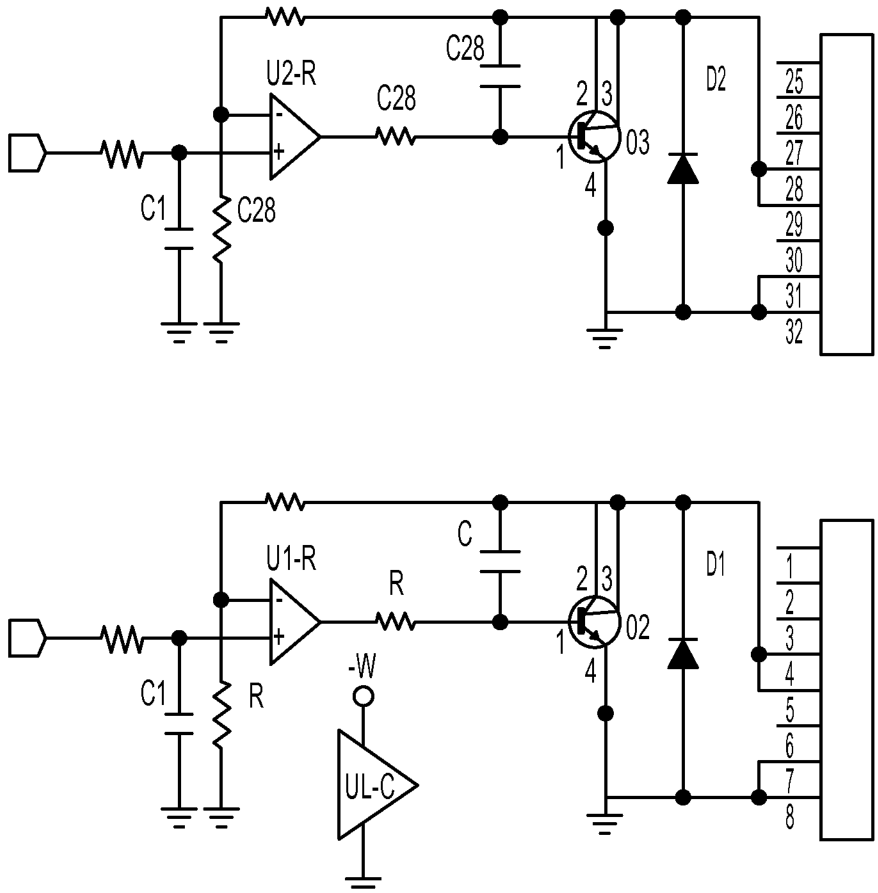

U2-R
C28
C28
C1
C28
2
3
1
4
03
D2
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
U1-R
R
C
C1
R
-W
UL-C
2
3
1
4
02
D1
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

FIG. 9(h)-2

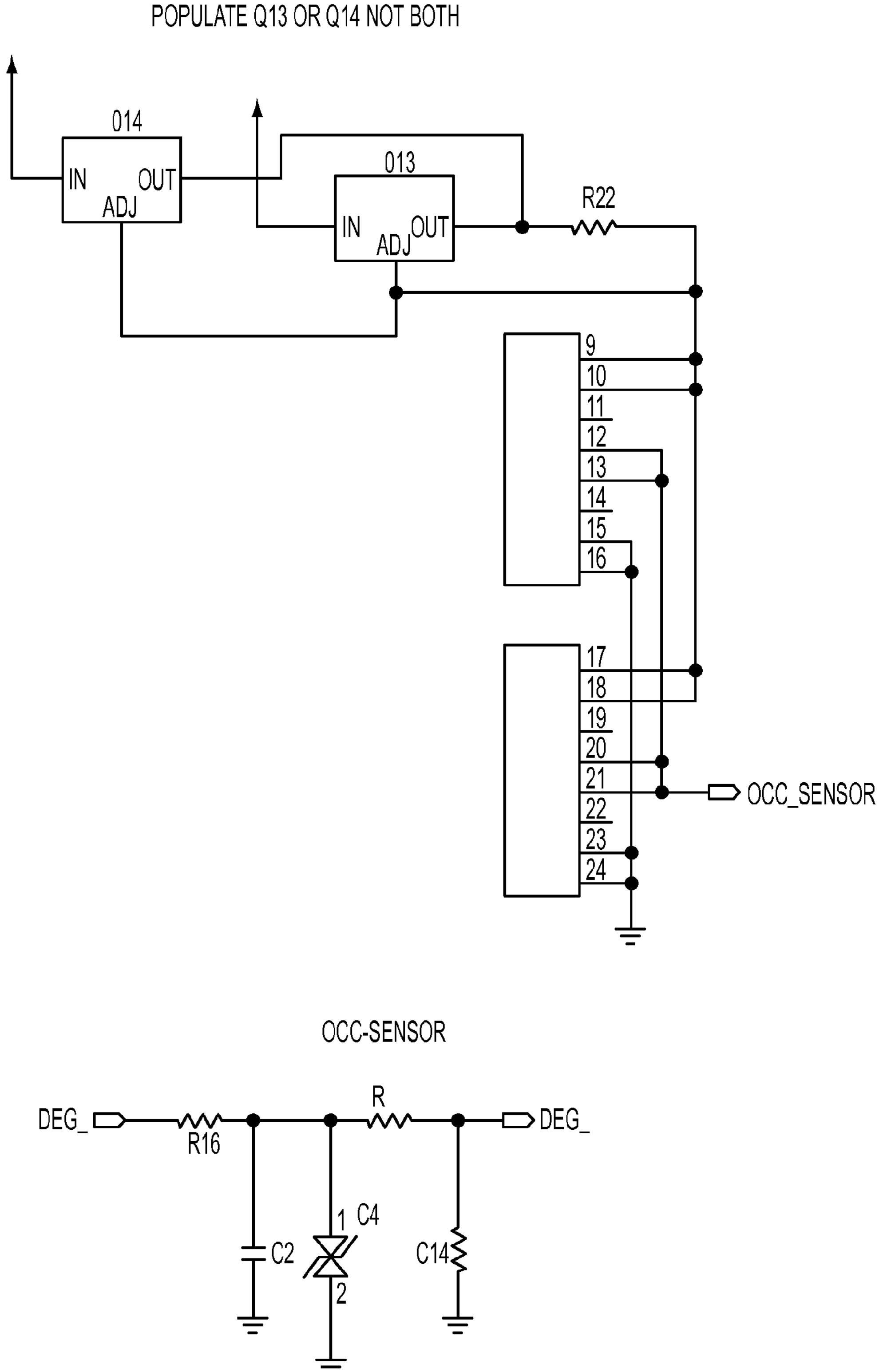

POPULATE Q13 OR Q14 NOT BOTH
014
IN
OUT
ADJ
013
IN
ADJ
OUT
R22
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
OCC_SENSOR
OCC-SENSOR
DEG_
R16
R
DEG_
1
C4
C2
2
C14

FIG. 9(i)-1

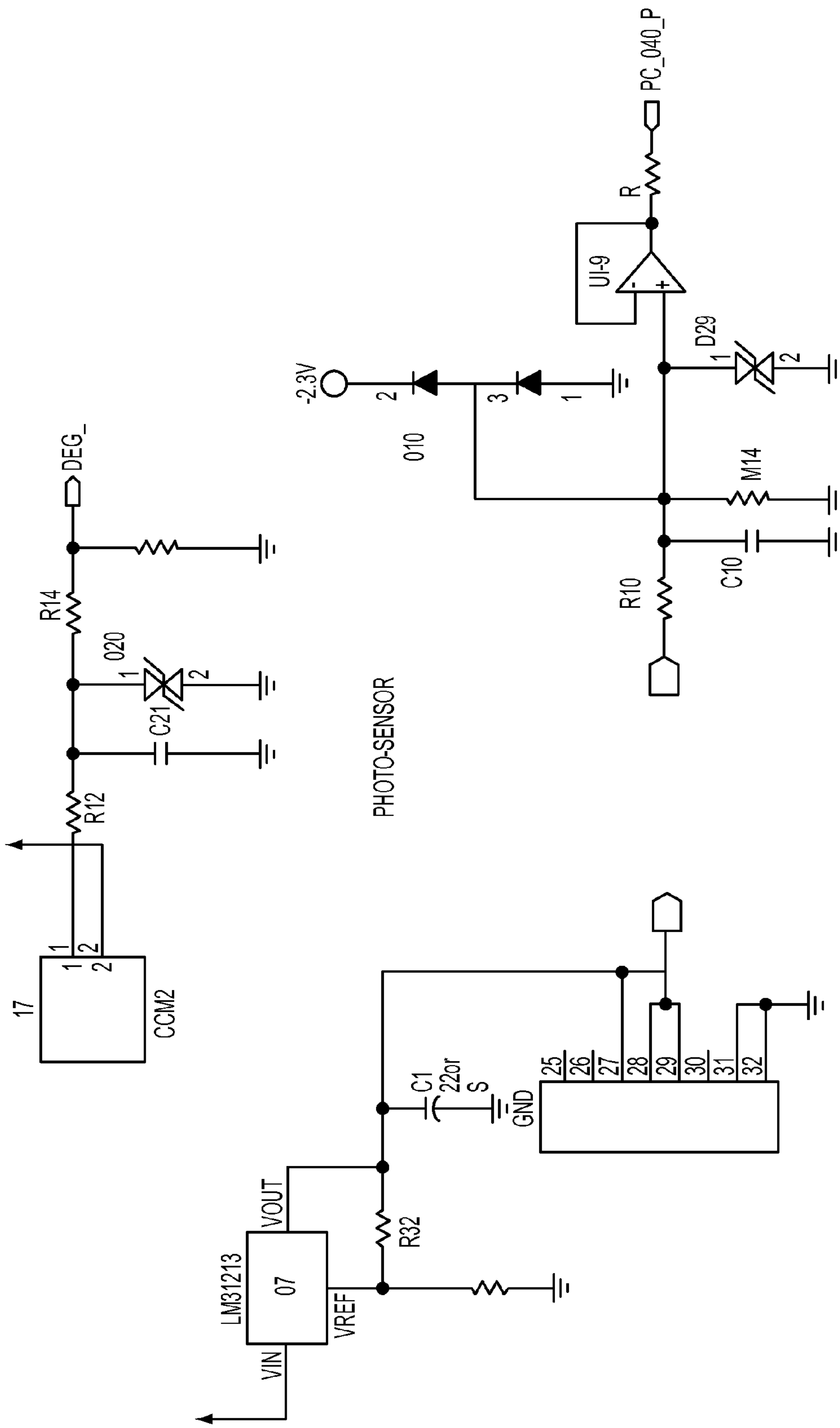

PC_040_P
R
UI-9
D29
-2.3V
010
M14
C10
R10
DEG_
DEMAND
R14
020
C21
R12
PHOTO-SENSOR
17
CCM2
C1
22or
S
GND
LM31213
07
VOUT
VREF
VIN
R32

FIG. 9(i)-2

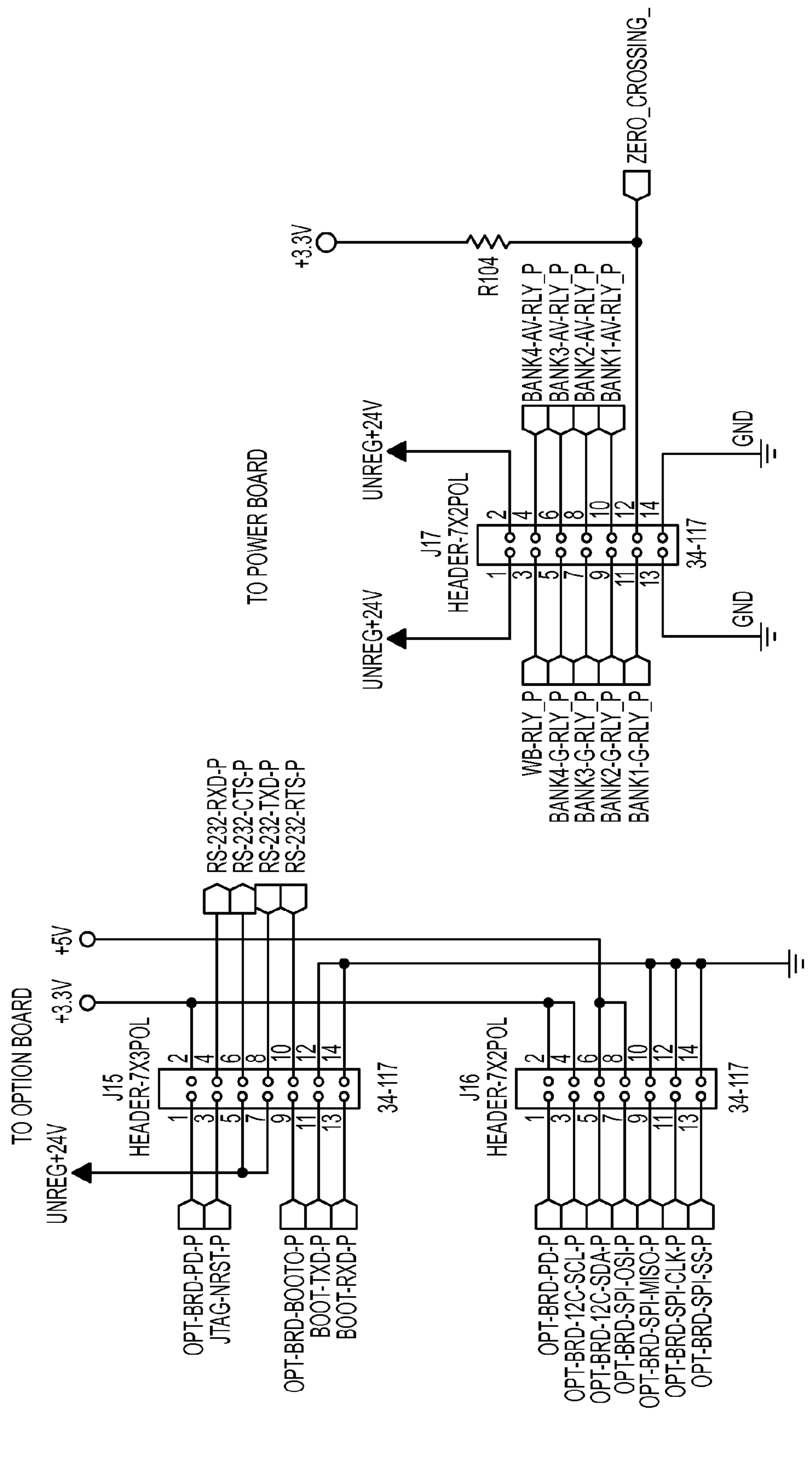
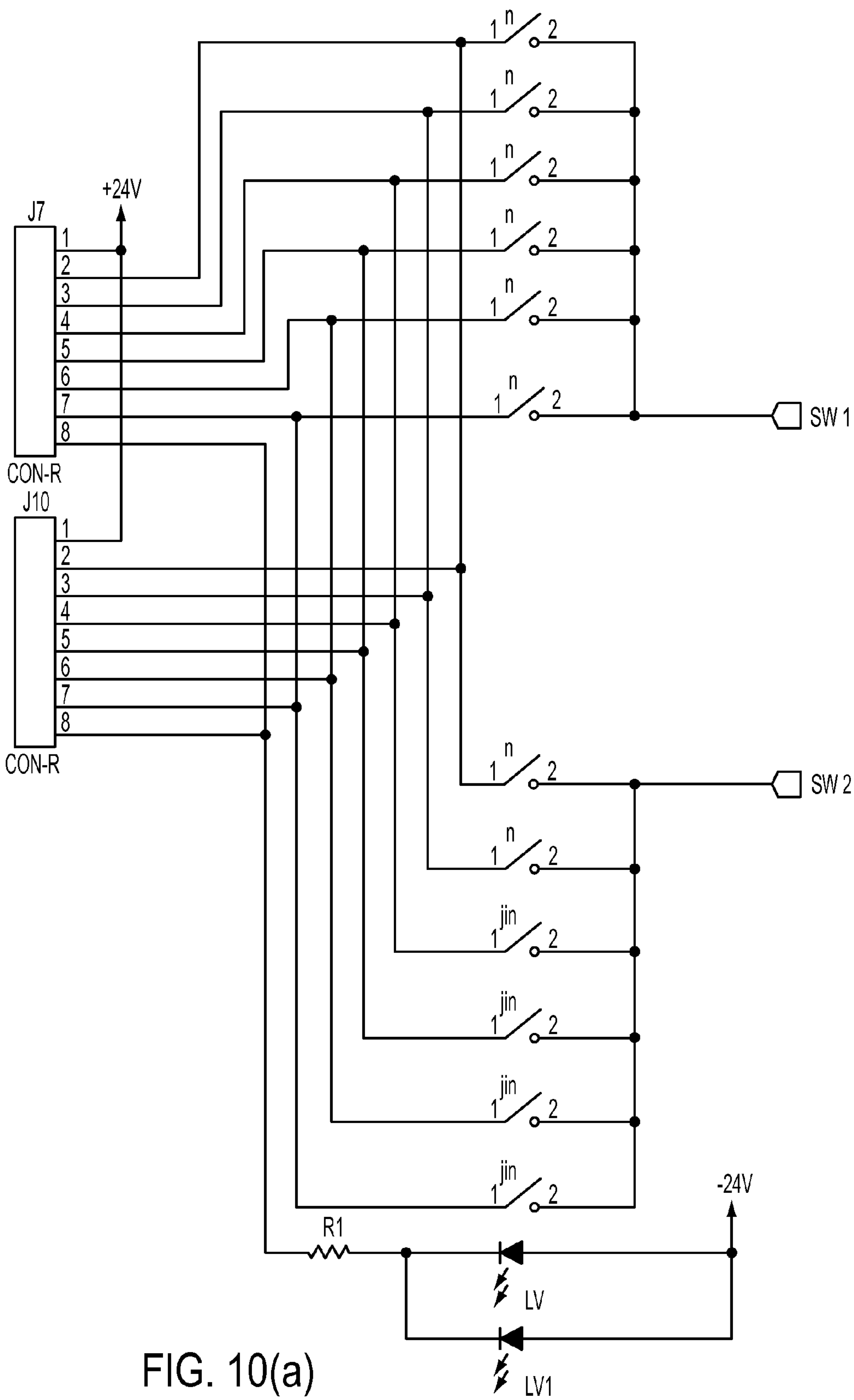

TO POWER BOARD
ZERO_CROSSING_
+3.3V
R104
BANK4-AV-RLY_P
BANK3-AV-RLY_P
BANK2-AV-RLY_P
BANK1-AV-RLY_P
UNREG+24V
UNREG+24V
J17
HEADER-7X2POL
34-117
GND
GND
WB-RLY_P
BANK4-G-RLY_P
BANK3-G-RLY_P
BANK2-G-RLY_P
BANK1-G-RLY_P
TO OPTION BOARD
UNREG+24V
+3.3V
+5V
J15
HEADER-7X3POL
34-117
RS-232-RXD-P
RS-232-CTS-P
RS-232-TXD-P
RS-232-RTS-P
OPT-BRD-PD-P
JTAG-NRST-P
OPT-BRD-BOOTO-P
BOOT-TXD-P
BOOT-RXD-P
J16
HEADER-7X2POL
34-117
OPT-BRD-PD-P
OPT-BRD-12C-SCL-P
OPT-BRD-12C-SDA-P
OPT-BRD-SPI-OSI-P
OPT-BRD-SPI-MISO-P
OPT-BRD-SPI-CLK-P
OPT-BRD-SPI-SS-P

FIG. 9(j)



+24V
J7
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
CON-R
J10
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
CON-R
n
jin
1
2
SW 1
SW 2
R1
-24V
LV
LV1

FIG. 10(a)

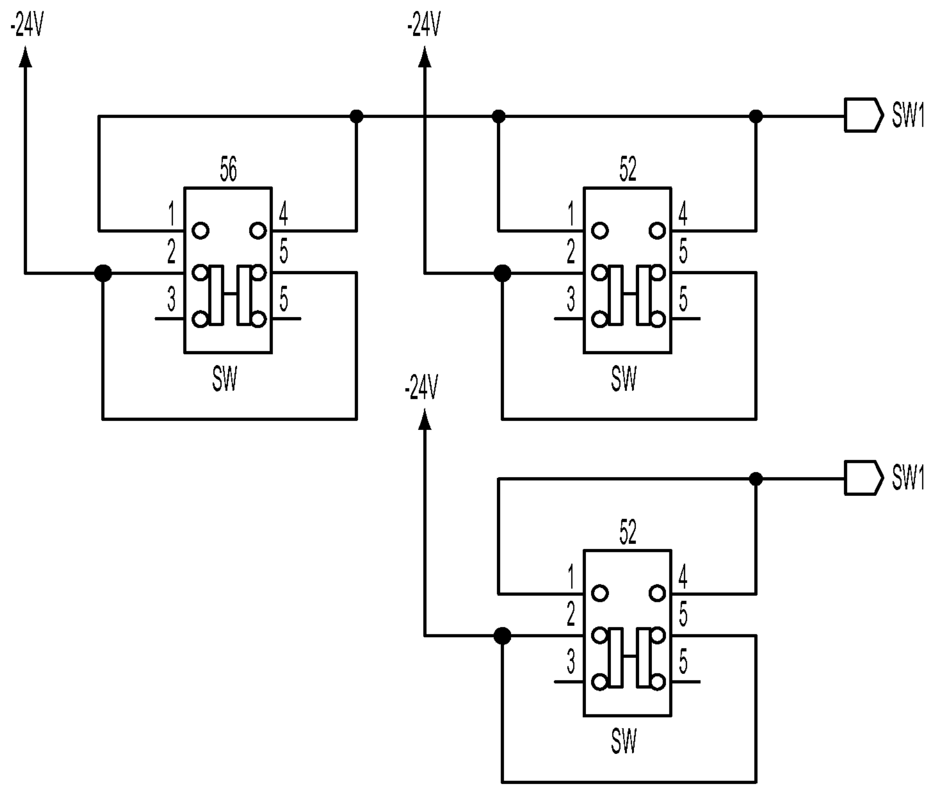
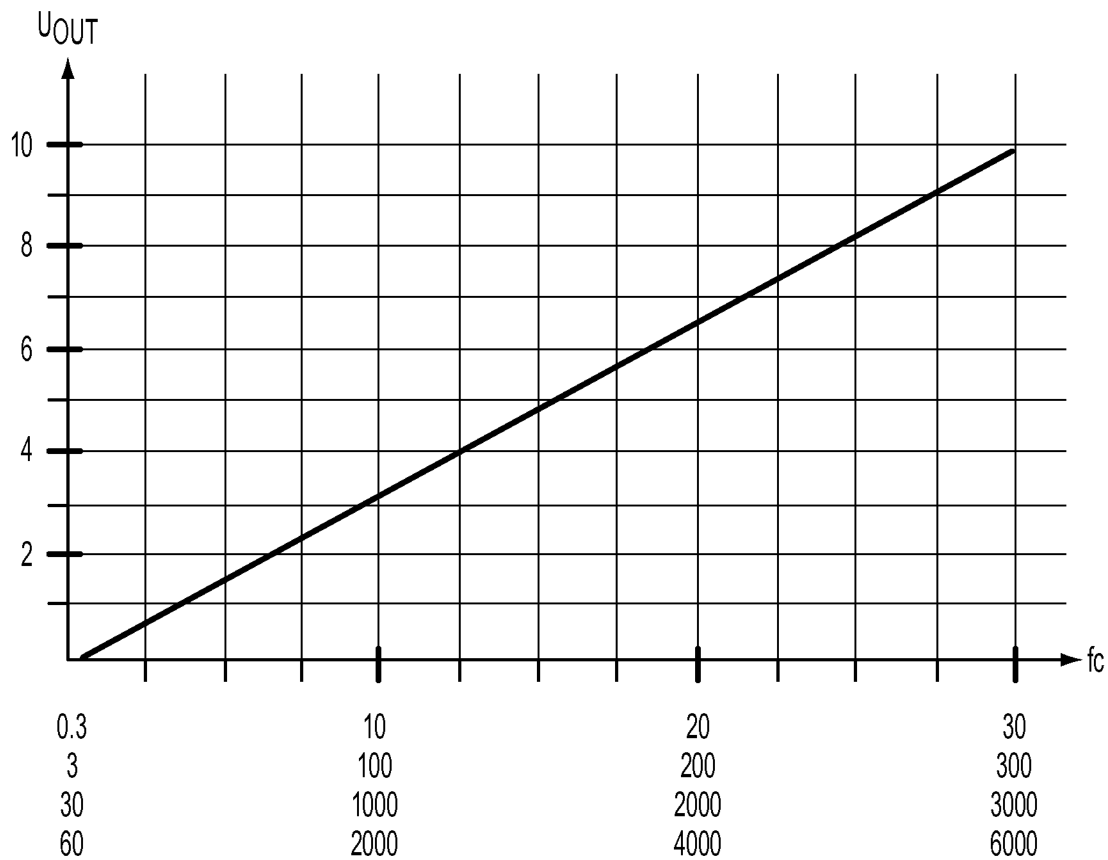


FIG. 10(b)



UOUT
10
8
6
4
2
fc
0.3
3
30
60
10
100
1000
2000
20
200
2000
4000
30
300
3000
6000

FIG. 11

CURRENT DAYLIGHT	DAYLIGHT AT TASK	ARTIFICAL LIGHT LEVEL	DAYLIGHT CONVERSION	DIMMED LEVEL
500fc	15fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	7.0 VDC - 70%
750fc	22.5fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	5.5 VDC - 55%
1000fc	30fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	4.0 VDC - 40%
1250fc	37.5fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	2.5 VDC - 25%
1500fc	45fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	1.0 VDC - 10%
1750fc	52.5fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	0.0 VDC - 0%
2000fc	60fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	0.0 VDC - 0%

FIG. 12

CURRENT DAYLIGHT	DAYLIGHT AT TASK	ARTIFICAL LIGHT LEVEL	DAYLIGHT CONVERSION	DIMMED LEVEL
500fc	15fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	ROW#1 ON
750fc	22.5fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	ROW#1 ON
1000fc	30fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	ROW#1 ON
1250fc	37.5fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	ROW#1 ON
1500fc	45fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	ROW#1 ON
1750fc	52.5fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	ROW#1 OFF
2000fc	60fc	50fc	33.3=1fc	ROW#1 OFF

FIG. 13

INTEGRATED LIGHTING SYSTEM AND METHOD

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/662,812 filed on May 4, 2010, which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) from provisional patent application Ser. No. 61/175,343 filed on May 4, 2009, the entire disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention generally relates to systems and methods for controlling area lighting. More particularly, the present invention relates to lighting systems and methods for controlling indoor lighting by providing flexible and programmable control based on occupancy and daylight contribution.

2. Discussion of the Background

Indoor facilities such as classrooms require robust, capable and flexible lighting and control solutions that serve the user and save energy. Static lighting systems designed to IES specifications service only a small portion of the actual lighting requirements that exist in today's classroom environment

Complicating the design of these solutions are energy codes, which are becoming more and more restrictive on schools: ASHRAE Standard 90.1-1999/2001 prescribes a maximum power density of 1.6 W/sq.ft for classrooms. ASHRAE 90.1-2004/2007 goes further with a prescribed 1.4 W/sq.ft and California's Title 24-2005 takes it even further with a requirement for a maximum density of 1.2 W/sq.ft.

To service the needs of the educator and to support the educational environment, classroom lighting and control solutions must be flexible and capable of providing multiple lighting scenarios "visual environments" that support or enhance the varied educational tools which may be utilized such as whiteboard, video and multimedia presentations. The modern classroom requires a range of lighting scenarios, from full lighting for traditional teaching to various levels of dimming and light distribution for audiovisual (A/V) presentations and other activities. Most existing systems don't have the flexibility to provide high-quality lighting in this varying environment. Typical classroom lighting solutions do not meet the functional needs of teachers or students.

Classroom lighting and control solutions must be energy efficient. Occupancy Sensing, Daylight Harvesting and Demand Response energy saving strategies can all be deployed in these spaces to significantly reduce energy costs and meet codes and regulations. Most importantly, a successful classroom lighting and control solution must be cost effective, simple to install and commission, easy to understand and simple to use.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Exemplary embodiments of the present invention address at least the above problems and/or disadvantages and provide at least the advantages described below.

Exemplary embodiments of the present invention provide a system and method where a plurality of luminaires, control switches, occupancy detectors, and photocells are connected to a central control module.

Exemplary implementations of certain embodiments of the present invention provide a display and keypad user interface which is used for setting up, testing, commissioning and maintaining the system; a memory card interface and associated memory card which can be used to load and save configuration data, update firmware, and log system operation.

Another exemplary embodiment of the invention provides a system and method where a lighting system can be set up and tested and then the configuration saved in a portable memory, such as on a memory card. For example, a memory card can be transferred to another system where it is read to facilitate faster and easier configuring of the other system to parallel, or to be exactly like, the original system.

According to yet another exemplary embodiment of the invention, a system and method provide for automatic recognition of the type of data stored on a portable memory (such as a memory card) to perform appropriate actions such as, for example: update configuration, or update firmware.

According to yet another exemplary embodiment of the invention, a system and method provide for switching between different mutually exclusive lighting modes where the lighting of each mode is sequenced such that the second lighting mode is initiated before the first mode is terminated, resulting in a continuity of lighting in the controlled area.

According to yet another exemplary embodiment of the invention, a system and method provide for daylight harvesting control with multiple zone dimming and switching, programmable attack and decay dimming rates, the ability to return a system to its previous dimming level after the lights have been turned off, and the ability to start the controlled lights at full light level then dim down to the previous level to ensure the lighting ballasts have sufficient voltage to start up.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

A more complete appreciation of the present invention and many of the attendant advantages thereof will be readily obtained as the same becomes better understood by reference to the following detailed description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. **1** provides a block diagram of a system according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. **2** provides a block diagram of a user interface for a control module according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. **3** provides conceptual diagrams of switching stations according to exemplary embodiments of the present invention.

FIGS. **4**(*a*)-**4**(*c*) and **5** provide illustrative drawings of a control module according to exemplary embodiments of the present invention.

FIG. **6** provides an illustrative drawing of a control module according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention and exemplary connections of such module to various components of a system according to embodiments of the present invention.

FIGS. **7**(*a*)-**7**(*c*) provide block diagrams of systems according to exemplary embodiments of the present invention.

FIGS. **8**(*a*)-**8**(*e*), **9**(*a*)-**1**, **9**(*a*)-**2**, **9**(*b*)-**1**, **9**(*b*)-**2**, **9**(*c*)-**1**, **9**(*c*)-**2**, **9**(*d*)-**1**, **9**(*d*)-**2**, **9**(*e*), **9**(*f*)-**1**, **9**(*f*)-**2**, **9**(*g*)-**1**, **9**(*g*)-**2**, **9**(*h*)-**1**, **9**(*h*)-**2**, **9**(*i*)-**1**, **9**(*i*)-**2**, **9**(*j*), and **10**(*a*)-**10**(*b*) provide detailed circuit diagrams illustrating exemplary implementations of the various components of systems according to exemplary embodiments of the present invention.

FIG. **11** provides a graphical illustration of an output of a photo sensor according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

FIGS. **12** and **13** provide tabular illustrations of calculation for controlling lighting based on photo sensor output according to exemplary embodiments of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXAMPLARY EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to the drawings, wherein like reference numerals designate identical or corresponding parts throughout the several views, embodiments of the present invention are shown in schematic detail.

The matters defined in the description such as a detailed construction and elements are nothing but the ones provided to assist in a comprehensive understanding of the invention. Accordingly, those of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that various changes and modifications of the embodiments described herein can be made without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention. Also, well-known functions or constructions are omitted for clarity and conciseness. Exemplary embodiments of the present invention are described below in the context of a classroom application. Such exemplary implementations are not intended to limit the scope of the present invention, which is defined in the appended claims.

According to exemplary embodiment of the present invention, a system and method are provided where a classroom lighting control solution includes the following components, as illustrated in the example of FIG. **1**:

- Classroom Control Module **100**
- Master ON/OFF Switch Station **102**
- Row ON/OFF Switch Stations (Rows **1-4**) **104***a*, **104***b*, **104***c* and **104***d*, respectively
- Gen—A/V Switch Station **106**
- AV Raise/Lower Switch Station **108**
- Whiteboard ON/OFF Switch Station **110**
- Quiet Time Switch Station **112**
- Auto (Daylight Harvesting) Switch Station **114**
- Occupancy Sensors (one or more) **116***a*, **116***b*, **116***c*
- Indoor Photo Sensor **118**

Classroom Control Module **100**:

In an exemplary implementation, a classroom control module **100** contains all of the switching and dimming components necessary for the control of an entire classroom lighting system **10**. The classroom control module can be designed to control up to four individual rows of recessed or pendant mounted lighting fixtures **120***a*, **120***b*, **120***c*, **120***d* (with alternate switching of A/V and General lighting modes and individual row control) and one Whiteboard lighting circuit **122** with ON/OFF control.

The classroom control module can be provided with the following:

- Control of 1 to 4 Rows of recessed or pendant mounted fixtures **120***a*, **120***b*, **120***c*, **120***d* each with General and A/V lighting circuits
- Control of 1 Whiteboard **122** circuit ON/OFF
- **1**—0-10 VDC Dimming output A/V **126**
- **4**—0-10 VDC Dimming output GEN daylight harvesting **124***a*, **124***b*, **124***c*, **124***d* (**1**—output may be sufficient. **4**—outputs would allow more flexible functionality)
- ON/OFF daylight harvesting via row switching with selectable row control (rows **1-4**)

In an exemplary implementation, the classroom control module **100** can be provided with a user interface **200** including, for example, a display **202** (such as a 2 line by 16-character display) with, for example push buttons **204***a*, **204***b* for screen navigation, and buttons **206***a* and **206***b* for selection of menu items. Other user interfaces, such as touch screens to facilitate ease of operation, can be implemented and are within the scope of the present invention.

The classroom control module **100** can also include an interface for connection to other lighting control systems to provide for programming and scheduling accordingly.

In an exemplary implementation, the classroom control module **100** can be provided with a maintained dry contact input to cause the classroom control module to go to a demand response mode. In the demand response mode, the classroom control module **100** limits the output of general and AV lighting modes to the demand response level as set at the classroom control module **100**. Demand response levels can be set by means of the user interface **200** of the classroom control modules **100**, as later described in further detail in the context of certain exemplary implementations.

General—A/V Switching Control:

A classroom control module **100** can be designed to allow classroom lighting to be in either the General or A/V modes and ensure that both modes may never be ON at the same time. Selection of current mode can be provided by means of momentary low voltage inputs.

Row Switching Control:

A classroom control module **100** can allow for individual or master ON/OFF control of 1 to 4 rows of General—A/V lighting. Control can be provided by means of momentary low voltage inputs.

Raise/Lower Control:

A classroom control module **100** can provide a 0-10 VDC output for A/V dimming control. Control can be provided by means of momentary low voltage inputs.

Whiteboard ON/OFF Control:

A classroom control module **100** can provide for ON/OFF control of a single whiteboard **122** circuit. Control can be provided by means of momentary low voltage inputs.

Quiet Time:

A classroom control module **100** can provide for a quiet time override. The quiet time override can inhibit the occupancy OFF command for a period of 60 minutes. At the end of the quiet time duration the control module can return control to the occupancy sensor and turn lighting OFF if no occupancy is present in the classroom.

Occupancy Sensor Control:

A classroom control module **100** can allow for the connection of one or more occupancy sensor(s), for example 3 occupancy sensors **116***a*, **116***b*, **116***c*. The control module **100** can provide power and receive inputs from the occupancy sensors **116***a*, **116***b*, **116***c* in order to determine the current state of occupancy of the classroom—either occupied or unoccupied. Upon a change from unoccupied to occupied states the classroom control module **100** can switch the classroom lighting to the general mode, turn all rows ON and engage automatic daylight harvesting if present. Upon a change from occupied to unoccupied states, the classroom control module **100** can switch all lighting OFF

General Lighting Continuous Dimming Daylight Harvesting Control:

A classroom control module **100** can receive current daylight level information from an indoor photo sensor **118**. According to an exemplary implementation, a function of a daylight harvesting sensor, such as indoor photo sensor **118**, is to monitor incoming daylight, calculate the appropriate levels that the general artificial lighting may be dimmed to save energy while maintaining desires foot-candle levels at task and send a 0 to 10 VDC signal to the general lighting to dim it to the appropriate level. To accomplish this a classroom control module can be implemented to receive and process information and operate as follows:

A. Current incoming Daylight Level: This information can be received from an indoor photo sensor **118** as a linear signal from 0 to 10 VDC in 4 possible ranges 0.3 to 30 fc, 3 to 300 fc, 30 to 3000 fc and 60 to 6000 fc as shown in the graph of FIG. **11**. Software can be designed to have the sensor set to the 30 to 3000 fc range.

B. Current Daylight Contribution: (Daylight read at task): Current daylight contribution readings for zones 1-4 as read at task during the mid portion of the day with the artificial lighting turned off. Daylight readings taken can be entered into a classroom control module **100** by means of a user interface **200**. Daylight lighting levels should be entered for each daylight harvesting zone being controlled. If a daylight harvesting zone will not be used there is no need to enter a level for it.

C. Designed or Measured Artificial Lighting Level (Designed levels or actual artificial lighting levels as read at task): Artificial lighting design or measured levels for zones 1-4 can be entered into the classroom control module **100** by means of the user interface **200**. As in the case of daylight, artificial lighting levels should to be entered for each daylight harvesting zone being controlled. If a daylight harvesting zone will not be used there is no need to enter a level for it.

D. Operation: In order to set the classroom control module's daylight harvesting settings a user can perform the following steps.

1. Turn off the artificial lighting.
2. Take readings during the mid portion of the day of the actual daylight fc level at task with a light meter.
3. Input the measured daylight fc level into classroom control module **100** via user interface **200**.
4. Input design fc level into the classroom control module **100** via user interface **200**. This may be accomplished by inputting designed levels or by taking measurements of actual artificial lighting levels with no daylight present.

Once the above steps are completed, the classroom control module **100** can calculate the daylight conversion factor and begin outputting the appropriate dimmed level (0 to 10 VDC) to the general lighting. An example of such calculations is illustrated in a table of FIG. **12**.

E. Dimming Response (Fade Up and Fade Down Rate): The controller **100** can be designed to respond quickly to decreases in natural daylight and more slowly to increases in natural daylight. The exact rate of these changes can be adjusted during testing, once determined these values can be entered into the controller **100** as default values. These values can also be adjustable by via user interface **200**.

F. Response Delay: In order to keep sudden temporary changes in daylight from causing output the sensor **118** to needlessly change the dimmed level of its controlled fixtures, the sensor **118** can have built-in delays to numb the effects of sudden changes in daylight. For example, sensor **118** can have two built-in delays: one for reacting to decrease in daylight and one for reacting to an increase in daylight. The default delay for reacting to increases in daylight can be set to, for example, 10 seconds and the default delay for reacting to decreases in daylight can be set to, for example, 2 seconds. These values can also be adjustable via the user interface **200**

General Lighting Switched Row Daylight Harvesting Control.

According to another exemplary implementation, a function of the daylight harvesting sensor **118** is to monitor incoming daylight, calculate the appropriate levels at which individual rows of the general artificial lighting may be switched OFF to save energy while maintaining desires footcandle levels at task. To accomplish this, a classroom control module **100** can be implemented to receive and process information and operate as described above in the context of General Lighting Continuous Dimming Daylight Harvesting Control Section, Parts A through F. However, in this exemplary implementation operation step 4 of Part D is replaced by the following step:

4. Input design fc level into the Classroom Control Module. This may be accomplished by inputting designed levels or by taking measurements of actual artificial lighting levels with no daylight present.

Once the above steps are completed the Classroom Control Module **100** calculates the daylight conversion factor and begins control of the artificial general lighting by switching ON and OFF rows of artificial lighting as needed. An example of such calculations for a row #1 of artificial lighting is illustrated in a table of FIG. **13**.

According to an exemplary implementation of certain embodiments of the present invention, a control module **100** can be generally configured as illustrated in FIGS. **4***a*-**4***c*, **5** and **6**, where:

1. Enclosure **400** can be metal to allow for simple connection of field conduit or other wiring system to control module **100**.
2. Enclosure **400** size can be as small as functionally possible.
3. Enclosure **400** can be NEMA **1** enclosure designed and rated for plenum installation.
4. Enclosure **400** can be finished in a color so as to uniquely identify it from other such enclosures that may be mounted in the classrooms plenum.
5. Enclosure **400** can be designed to easily mount to, for example, plywood backing
6. Removable screw **404** can be used to secure cover **402** of enclosure **400**, which may also be hinged and/or configure to lock, and includes openings **406** for wiring.
7. The design can allow the installing contractor adequate access to mount the enclosure **400** and access all required terminals, e.g., **410** and **420** for installation and connection of field wiring.
8. Line voltage electrical connections can be made to appropriately labeled terminal blocks **420** designed to accept standard field wiring.
9. Enclosure **400** can be provided with, for example color coded, RJ45 and RJ11 connectors **410** for the connection of switch stations and low voltage connection to lighting fixtures.
10. Enclosure **400** can have individually labeled RJ45 connectors **410** for each switch station type for simple Plug and Play connection of remote switch stations
11. Enclosure **400** can be provided with, for example 4, RJ11 connectors **410** appropriately labeled for general lighting daylight harvesting
12. Enclosure **400** can be provided with, for example 1, RJ11 connector appropriately labeled for A/V lighting dimming control.
13. Enclosure **400** can be configured to receive 120/347 VAC 50/60 Hz—universal input voltage via access opening **408**
14. Line voltage electrical connection can be made to terminal blocks **420** via openings **406** designed for use with 16 to 10 gauge wire
15. Class 2 electrical connection can be made via plug-in connectors **410**, such as type RJ45 or RJ11 connectors.

As further illustrated in the exemplary implementations of FIGS. **4***a*-**4***c* and **5**, enclosure **400** includes a low voltage (class 2) section **412** and a high voltage section **414** separated by high voltage/class 2 barrier **416**. A transformer **418** provided in section **414** supplies power to low voltage components of section **414**. User interface **430**, such as a user interface **200** of FIG. **2**, including display **432** and controls (e.g., menu navigation keys) **434**, is configured in section **412**. On the other hand, switching relays **422** and terminal blocks **420** are configured in high voltage section **414**.

As further illustrated in the exemplary implementations of FIG. **6**, a plurality of bus lines, each having a specific function, such as switching **602**, detecting **604**, or diming control **606**, connect to controller **100**. Controller **100** receives live voltage input **610** and supplies it to light fixtures via wiring **608** connected to terminal blocks **420**.

According to an exemplary embodiment, the nodes being controlled get their intelligence from the system and are coupled to a particular sensor, such as an indoor photo sensor **620** and occupancy sensor **622**, or a switch, such as GEN—A/V switch **630** and dimming switch **632**; each is attached to proper node and can be color coded to prevent mixing during installation. In the example of dimming control, dimming signals pass through the control module **100** for added intelligence, such as timing of light level, before being sent to light fixtures **640**,**642** by means of low voltage dimming control **606**.

According to exemplary embodiment, low voltage switch stations, such as **102**, **104***a-d*, **106**, **108**, **110**, **112** and **114** of FIG. **1**, can be implemented as generally illustrated in FIG. **3**, where the switching station is, for example, designed to fit into a single gang electrical box and can be used with a standard plate cover, and multiple switch stations may be installed into a single multi gang junction box with a multi gang cover plate. Exemplary operations and functionality provided by such switch stations are as follows:

GEN—A/V Switch Station

GEN—A/V Switch Station allows a user to select between general and A/V lighting modes and can be implemented as a single gang switch station with 2 momentary push buttons GEN and AV **300** connected to controller **100** via, for example, plug-in class 2 electrical connector such as RJ45, where in operation:

1. When the GEN switch is momentarily depressed the controller **100** turns the A/V lighting OFF and turns the General lighting ON.
2. When the A/V switch is momentarily depressed the controller **100** switches the General lighting OFF and turns ON the A/V lighting.
3. Controller **100** can be configured such that at no time the controller **100** allows for both General and A/V lighting to be in the ON state.
4. When A/V dimming is in use, A/V lighting is configured to switch ON and OFF at current dimmed levels. (Last level).
5. When general lighting daylight harvesting is in use general lighting can be configured to switch ON and OFF at levels determined by daylight harvesting.

Master ON/OFF Switch Station

Master ON/OFF switch station allows a user to turn all lighting rows ON and OFF and can be implemented as a single gang switch station **302** with 1 momentary push button ON/OFF connected to controller **100** via, for example, plug-in class 2 electrical connector such as RJ45. During operation, when the ON/OFF switch is momentarily depressed the controller alternately switches all Rows ON and OFF.

Row ON/OFF Switch Station: (Rows **1-4**)

Row ON/OFF switch station allows a user to turn all lighting rows ON and OFF and can be implemented as a single gang switch station **302** with 1 momentary push button ON/OFF connected to controller **100** via, for example, plug-in class 2 electrical connector such as RJ45. During operation, when the ON/OFF switch is momentarily depressed the controller alternately switches the controlled Row **1-4** ON and OFF.

Raise/Lower Switch Station

Raise/Lower Switch Station allows the system user to raise and lower A/V lighting levels and can be implemented as a single gang switch station with 2 momentary push buttons Raise and Lower **304** connected to controller **100** via, for example, plug-in class 2 electrical connector such as RJ45, where in operation:

1. When the Raise switch is momentarily depressed the controller raises the current A/V lighting level 1 step.
2. When the Lower switch is momentarily depressed the controller lowers the A/V lighting level 1 step.
3. If the Raise or Lower push button is depressed for more than 1 second the classroom control module **100** raises or lowers the A/V lighting level 1 step every 500 ms until the maximum or minimum level is reached.
4. A/V dimming for 0 to 100% can be provided in 10 even steps.
5. Once the controller has reached it maximum or minimum level, repeated presses of the Raise or Lower push button can be configured to have no effect on A/V lighting levels.

Whiteboard Switch Station

Whiteboard switch station allows a system user to turn ON or OFF the Whiteboard lighting and can be implemented as a single gang switch station **302** with 1 momentary push button Whiteboard **306** connected to controller **100** via, for example, plug-in class 2 electrical connector such as RJ45. During operation, when the Whiteboard switch is momentarily depressed the controller alternately switches the Whiteboard lighting ON and OFF.

Quiet Time Switch Station

Quite Time switch station allows a system user to temporarily override the occupancy sensors OFF command and can be implemented as a single gang switch station **302** with 1 momentary push button Quite Time **308** connected to controller **100** via, for example, plug-in class 2 electrical connector such as RJ45, where in operation:

1. When the Quiet Time switch is momentarily depressed the controller **100** overrides/inhibits the occupancy sensors OFF command for a period of 60 minutes.
2. If the Quiet Time switch is momentarily depressed during the Quiet Time the Quiet Time is reset to 60 minutes.
3. If the Quiet Time switch is pressed and held for a period of 10 seconds the Quiet

Time override period is ended and the occupancy sensor OFF inhibit is removed allowing the occupancy sensor to turn lighting OFF when occupancy is no longer detected.

Auto (Daylight Harvesting) Switch Station

Auto switch station allows a system user to command the system go into the general lighting daylight harvesting mode, and can be implemented as a single gang switch station **302** with 1 momentary push button Auto **310** connected to controller **100** via, for example, plug-in class 2 electrical connector such as RJ45. During operation, when the Auto switch is momentarily depressed the controller goes into the General lighting daylight harvesting mode and dims the general lighting as commanded by the controller **100**.

A system may include any number of GEN—A/V, ON/OFF, Raise/Lower, Whiteboard,

Quite Time, or Auto switch stations.

Exemplary implementations of lighting systems according to embodiments of the present invention are illustrated in FIGS. **7**(*a*)-**7**(*c*). For example, FIG. **7**(*a*) illustrates a system deployed in a classroom setting **700**, where the system provides ON/OFF control for White Board **702** by controlling light output of fixture **704**, as well as control of General and A/V lighting by controlling light output of fixtures **706**. For such systems, switch stations may include: an ON/OFF control station **708**, which can be disposed near classroom entrance; and/or a teacher control station **710**, which can be disposed near the White Board. Commands from stations **708** and **710** are communicated to a control module **100** via low voltage cables, and control module **100** supplies power from a main feed to fixtures **704** and **706**, accordingly, via line voltage connections. Occupancy sensors **712** connected to control module **100** via low voltage cables provide additional lighting control, such as automatic light shut off after no occupancy has been detected for a period of time.

In the example of FIG. **7***b*, the system further provides for dimming control, such that control module **100** provides dimming control to fixtures **706** as a low voltage dimming signal on line **714**. For example, teacher station **710** may include a dimming switch which provides dimming control information to module **100**, which in turn generates a dimming signal on line **714** accordingly. On the other hand, dimming control may be automatic, based on for example occupancy presence or absence, or a time out period.

In the example of FIG. **7***c*, the system further provides for general lighting daylight harvesting where an indoor photo sensor **718** provides control information via a dedicated low voltage cable to control module **100** accordingly. Also dimming control is further enhanced by proving dimming signals on line **714** and **716** to rows of fixtures **706**. Automatic and manual dimming control, as well as general lighting with A/V dimming and general lighting daylight harvesting have been described above, and are applicable in the implementation of the system illustrated in FIG. **7***c*.

FIGS. **8**(*a*) through **10** provide detailed circuit diagrams illustrating exemplary implementations of the various components of systems according to exemplary embodiments of the present invention. For example, FIG. **8**(*a*)-**8**(*e*) illustrate components of a relay board comprising a plurality of electromechanical relays for use in control module **100**, as illustrated, for example in FIG. **5**. FIG. **9**(*a*) generally illustrates a microprocessor for use in a logic control board of controller **100** described above. FIGS. **9**(*b*)-**9**(*j*) include circuit diagrams of various components of the circuit board including: user interface (see FIG. **9**(*c*)); USB slave and SD card circuits (see FIG. **9**(*d*); power supply and regulation circuits (see FIG. **9**(*e*)); various input circuits (see FIGS. **9**(*f*) and **9**(*g*)); dimming control circuits (see FIG. **9**(*h*)); and sensor circuits (see FIG. **9**(*i*)). FIG. **10** provides an example of a switch control circuit according to an embodiment of the present invention.

In an advantageous exemplary implementation of certain embodiments of the present invention, a removable SD card can be configured with the controller **100**. The SD Card enables, for example:

- Firmware upgrades in the field
- Easy replication of device configuration
- Logging for:
  - debug
  - functional verification
- audit trails for:
  - installation/commissioning setup for LEEDS/CHIPS compliance
  - evidence of energy savings

In another advantageous exemplary implementation of certain embodiments of the present invention, when switching among various lighting configurations within a fixture a configuration is provided to ensure the affected area is never completely without light. For example, rather than switching OFF the current configuration, then switch ON the new configuration, which leaves a period of time (e.g., a few seconds with fluorescent lights) when the area is not lit at all, a configuration according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention facilitates switching ON the new configuration before switching OFF the old one.

Numerous additional modifications and variations of the present invention are possible in light of the above teachings. It is therefore to be understood that within the scope of the appended claims, the present invention may be practiced otherwise than as specifically described herein.

We claim:

1. A lighting system comprising:

a plurality of high voltage devices;

a plurality of low voltage devices;

a central control module including a first low voltage connection to at least one of the low voltage devices and a high voltage connection to at least one of the high voltage devices;

a display and a user interface, coupled to the central control module, for performing at least one of setting up, testing, commissioning and maintaining of at least one of the high voltage devices and at least one of the low voltage devices connected to the central control module;

a data interface, coupled to the central control module; and

a non-transient memory medium coupled to the data interface,

wherein the central control module is configured to selectively retrieve data from the non-transient memory medium and selectively save data to the non-transient memory medium, said data containing information for the at least one of setting up, testing, commissioning and maintaining of at least one of the high voltage devices and at least one of the low voltage devices.

2. The system of claim **1**, wherein the non-transient memory medium is removably coupled to the data interface.

3. The system of claim **1**, wherein at least one of the high voltage devices includes a luminaire.

4. The system of claim **1**, wherein the central control module further includes a second low voltage connection to at least one of the high voltage devices, and the central control module receives at least one first control signal as input via the at least one first low voltage connection and outputs at least one second control signal via the at least one second low voltage connection.

5. The system of claim **4**, wherein the at least one of the high voltage devices includes a light source, and the at least one second control signal is indicative of light level output of the light source.

6. The system of claim **1**, wherein the high voltage devices are grouped into a plurality of zones, the high voltage devices in at least one of the zones receiving a high voltage output from the high voltage connection based on input to the central control module from the first low voltage connection.

7. The system of claim **6**, wherein at least one of the low voltage devices is associated with the at least one of the zones.

8. The system of claim **6** comprising a plurality of high voltage connections, wherein

the high voltage devices receive high voltage outputs from the high voltage connections, respectively in the zones,

the low voltage devices are respectively associated with the zones, and

the central control module regulates the high voltage outputs to the high voltage devices in the zones, respectively, based on the input from the low voltage connections associated with the low voltage devices.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of low voltage devices includes at least one of a control switch, an occupancy detector, and a photocell.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the data includes at least one of system configuration information, system component information, firmware and/or software update information, and system operation log.

11. The system of claim 1, wherein the non-transient memory medium includes a portable memory.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein the data includes configuration information for at least one of the setting up, testing, commissioning and maintaining of at least one of the high voltage devices and at least one of the low voltage devices connected to the central control module.

13. The system of claim 1, wherein the central control module selectively overrides signals received from at least one of the low voltage devices to control output of at least one of the high voltage devices.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the selective override of the signals received from at least one of the low voltage devices is based on at least one of data retrieved from the non-transient memory medium, and input received via the user interface.

15. The system of claim 1, wherein the central control module selectively sets the output of the high voltage devices to audio/visual (A/V) or demand response mode of operation based on at least one of data retrieved from the non-transient memory medium, and input received via the user interface.

16. A control module comprising:

a line voltage input;

a low voltage section including a controller, a data interface, and a plurality of first low voltage connections;

a non-transient memory medium coupled to the data interface; and

a high voltage section including a plurality of high voltage connections;

wherein the first low voltage connections receive first control signals as input to the controller, and the controller regulates the line voltage output on the plurality of high voltage connections based on the first control signals, and

the controller selectively retrieves data from the non-transient memory medium and selectively saves data to the non-transient memory medium via the data interface, said data containing information for the at least one of setting up, testing, commissioning and maintaining of at least one high voltage device connected to at least one of the high voltage connections and at least one low voltage device connected to at least one of the low voltage connections.

17. The control module of claim 16, wherein the first control signals comprise at least one of an ON/OFF signal, a dimming light level signal, an ambient light indication signal, and an occupancy indication signal.

18. The control module of claim 17, wherein the low voltage section further comprises a plurality of second low voltage connections outputting second low voltage control signals.

19. The control module of claim 18, wherein the high voltage connections supply the regulated line voltage to high voltage devices and the second low voltage control signals regulate operation of the high voltage devices.

20. The control module of claim 19, wherein at least one of the high voltage devices includes a luminaire, and at least one of the second low voltage control signals regulates a dimming operation of the luminaire.

21. A lighting control method comprising the steps of:

receiving first low voltage control signals;

providing a high voltage output to at least one light fixture;

configuring a control module to process the first low voltage control signals received as input and to regulate the high voltage output according to the first low voltage control signals;

configuring a data input/output interface in communication with the control module for coupling with a non-transient memory medium; and

wherein the configuring step includes

selectively inputting configuration information to the control module via a user interface coupled to the control module, and

selectively uploading configuration information from the non-transient memory medium via the data input/output interface of the control module.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the first low voltage control signals comprise at least one of ON/OFF signal, dimming light level signal, ambient light indication signal, and occupancy indication signal.

23. The method of claim 22, further comprising

providing a second low voltage control signal to the at least one light fixture to affect light level output of the at least one fixture.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the configuring step further comprises setting the configuration of the control module to output the second low voltage control signals to regulate the operation of the at least one light fixture.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein the second low voltage control signal is indicative of the light level output of the at least one light fixture.

26. The method of claim 21, further comprising storing the configuration information on the non-transient memory medium.

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